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LOK SABHA

Friday, April 5, 1974/Chaitra 15, 1896 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Export of Natural Rubber

†

*566. SHRI K. MALLANNA:

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rubber growers have urged that at least 20,000 tonnes of natural rubber should be exported annually;

(b) whether the small rubber growers had to sell their rubber at considerably lower prices than Rs. 520 per quintal fixed as floor price in 1970; and

(c) whether the rubber growers have represented to Government to disregard the pressure of industrialists to prevent to export of natural rubber; and if so, the reaction of Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) The Rubber growers have represented to Government that the surplus production of natural rubber should be exported.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir. Government have already decided to export 5,000 tonnes of natural rubber through S.T.C.; and also further exports depending on the overall production, and exportable surplus after meeting the requirements of the indigenous industry.

SHRI K. MALLANNA: With reference to the answer to part (b), what are the reasons why the small rubber growers had to sell their rubber at prices considerably lower than the Rs. 520 per quintal fixed as floor price in 1970? Also what action has been taken to maintain the price of rubber to help small growers?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: The statutory price was fixed in 1970 when there was a glut in the market in the sense that production was exceeding the target and consumption was not coming up to expectations. So naturally there was a surplus and glut in the market. The statutory price was fixed to save the small growers and to help them get higher price, we asked STC also to buy. It was because of higher availability in the market that the small growers were not able to realise higher prices. But now the situation is different.

SHRI K. MALLANNA: What is the actual quantity exported so far and what is the actual quantity of natural rubber required by indigenous industry?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: At present Government have decided to export 5,000 tonnes. This has been contracted, but due to shipment and other allied difficulties, we were able to export only 2,600 tonnes. Indigenous demand of natural rubber is estimated to be 1,12,000 tonnes in 1973-74.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Never has there been a better climate for export of rubber. International prices have gone up. We are in dire need of foreign exchange. Obviously due to the difficulties faced by the petroleum and chemical industries, the question of having synthetic rubber for our use should be overruled Still I am surprised that this Government...

MR. SPEAKER: Why are you making a speech? Ask a question.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: This is a very important question which I must bring to the notice of the House. We are knuckling under the pressure of international cartels. In view of these factors, what programme has STC formulated to export rubber? You cannot just run away by pleading shipping difficulties. How much have you procured? His answer is totally inadequate. I want to know whether the STC has formulated any clear-cut programme—the Finance Minister is here and he is also in need of foreign exchange—and, if so, under whose pressure are they knuckling?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: There is no question of knuckling at all. In fact, it was explained in this House in the last session, when some hon. Member was raising the point whether we were wise in exporting or not, it was categorically declared on behalf of the Government of India that our policy is to export the surplus rubber. It was in that context for the first time that we were able to decide to export 5,000 tonnes. There is no question of knuckling and yielding to any pressure. Whatever the surplus, after meeting the indigenous requirements, we will definitely export.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: That was the policy of the STC. But what is the programme and also the perspective?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: The perspective and the programme are very clear-cut; tallying in production and indigenous demand. Last year, the production was 1,12,000 tonnes. This year, it is expected to be 1,25,000 tonnes. As I stated earlier, the indigenous demand is expected to be 1,15,000 tonnes. Therefore, it is obvious that we will have a small surplus which will definitely be exported and which will earn us foreign exchange.

SHRI R. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: May I know from the Government whether it has been brought to the notice of the Government that the price of rubber this year has gone up to Rs. 700 a quintal and now there is a declining tendency due to the fact that the rubber tyre manufacturers are having some associations and they are trying to get down the price? May I know whether the Government will fix a floor price, something like Rs. 700, which the Government can do? May I also know whether they are thinking of revising the floor price? I also want to know the international price of rubber at present.

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: It may kindly be recollected that till now the attempt was to see that the statutory price was realised. In fact, I would like to point out to the hon. Member that the decision to export the surplus rubber to the tune of 5,000 tonnes was decided when the prices were low, and the decision was to export even if it was incurring a loss. Now, the situation is that the prices are slightly better, and the international price at one point in January, shot up to nearly Rs. 9,000 per tonne and the CIF value in London is nearly Rs. 6,300 per tonne.

SHRI R. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: I referred to the floor price of rubber being revised. Will it be raised?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: There is no proposal at present to raise the floor price.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: The hon. Minister said that the floor price was fixed, to protect the farmers. You may recollect that in this House we had once raised the matter, because black money was generated, and even though the floor price was fixed, we could not get the price. Then the Government decided to export and then all these monopoly groups were started and

the pressure was to export. Now, still they are continuing the pressure. I would like to know one thing. They only say that 1,14,000 tonnes is an estimation. But the actual consumption is below 1,13,000 tonnes. In that case, do the Government export 20,000 tonnes of rubber to protect the interests of the small growers who form 80 per cent?

MR. SPEAKER : Be very brief in your question; do not give information and then at the end put a small question.

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: As the consumers of the product, it may be the desire of a few industrialists to see that they could have the good fortune of operating in a surplus situation. They do not want the export to take place; it may be their desire not to export. But, as I categorically stated in the beginning, whatever is surplus, after meeting the reasonable indigenous demands, will be exported, and we will not yield to pressure of any industrialists at all.

SHRI VARKEY GEORGE: According to the Rubber Board, there is an annual excess production of 17,000 tonnes in this country. May I know from the hon Minister, instead of exporting 5,000 tonnes, whether the Government will decide to export 17,000 tonnes which is our excess production and which will in turn earn valuable foreign exchange for this country?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: The hon. Member is fully agreeing with what I stated earlier. The production is expected to be 1,25,000 tonnes and the demand is about 1,12,000 tonnes. Obviously something between 15,000 and 17,000 tonnes may be available. It has to be recollected that export started only in August, 1973. In the early part there were losses incurred. Progressively we will go in for more exports.

SHRI DHAMANKAR: May I know whether the production of synthetic rubber has gone down to 20,000 tonnes per year and whether due to that the price of raw rubber had gone up from Rs. 520 to Rs. 625 and also whether the total production of synthetic rubber and raw rubber is just enough for the manufacture of rubber goods in this country?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: The indigenous capacity for production of synthetic rubber is 35,000 tonnes. There is only one factory and last year they had prolonged labour trouble there. Obviously their production was only 22,000 tonnes. We hope that the production of synthetic rubber will go to the optimum capacity. Taking together our production of synthetic rubber and natural rubber, we have not only enough to meet indigenous demands; we have a slight surplus.

Exemption from payment of Income-Tax

*567. SHRI JHARKHANDE RAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal that all categories of non-ceiling retirement benefits of employees including Gratuity, Provident Fund and Pension Fund should be tax-free;

(b) whether Government are also considering that cash medical benefits, house-rent allowance, bonus and travelling allowance earned by employees should be tax-free; and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

श्री झारखण्डेराय : इस वर्ष आपने 6 हजार रुपया वार्षिक आय वाले को कर की राशि से मुक्त कर दिया है, इससे पहले 5 हजार रुपये की आयवाले कर-मुक्त थे, आजकल की कमरतोड़ महंगाई को देखते हुए भी आप ने 7200 रुपये की छूट भी नहीं दी। क्या सरकार आज की मंहगाई को दृष्टि में रखते हुए 10 हजार रुपये की आयवाले को कर की अदायगी से मुक्त करने की बारे में विचार कर रही है?

श्री यशवन्तराव चव्हाण : अभी तो इरादा नहीं है।

श्री झारखण्डे राय : मैं जानना चाहता हूं क्या वित्त मंत्री जी और प्रधान मंत्री जी से इन विषयों पर कर्मचारी महासंघों के प्रतिनिधि मंडल मिल चुके हैं, इसी तरह से राज्यों और दूसरे संघों के प्रतिनिधि मंडल भी मिल चुके हैं और उन्होंने इस बात की चर्चा मिलते समय की है कि अगर सरकार उन की तमाम सुविधाओं की ओर आज की स्थिति में पूरा पूरा ध्यान नहीं देगी तो उन्हें भी विवश हो कर रेलवे हड़तालियों के साथ भारत-बंध में शरीक होना पड़ेगा—क्या ऐसी सूचना सरकार के पास है ?

श्री यशवन्त राव चौहान : मैं समझता हूं कि यह रास्ता गलत होगा।

श्री एस० एम० बनर्जी : अभी तो सरकार का ऐसा इरादा नहीं है कि एक्जैम्पशन लिमिट को 6 हजार से बढ़ाकर 1 हजार किया जाय—क्या माननीय मंत्री जी के ध्यान में यह बात लाई गई है कि जब से पे-कमिशन की सिफारिशें लागू हुई है तो पहले 5 हजार की एक्जैम्पशन लिमिट से जो फायदा कर्मचारियों को होता था, वह अब 6 हजार से भी नहीं हो रहा है ? क्या इस बात को मद्देनजर रखते हुए सरकार इस पर विचार करेगी ?

MR. SPEAKER : It is a suggestion for action.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Is there any proposal ?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : No, Sir.

Increase in Production of Natural Rubber

*568. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the light of the high prices for petroleum products and the scarcity of feed stocks for production of synthetic rubber, Government have taken steps for increasing the production of natural rubber in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Adequate provision has been made for development programmes for rubber plantation industry in the 5th Five Year Plan. This includes replantation with high yielding planting material and new planting, as also bringing new areas suitable for rubber plantations in Tripura, Assam, Mizoram etc. under rubber cultivation. There is also a proposal to increase the replantation subsidy for holdings upto 4 hectares and those above 4 hectares. Research on developing new planting materials, improving productivity of present plants, improvement of cultivation practices, improvement of processing etc. will also be intensified during the 5th Plan Period and research results would be communicated to planters to increase productivity and efficiency.

SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN : Sir, the Minister has said that there is a proposal to increase the replantation subsidy for holdings upto 4 hectares and those above 4 hectares. In this connection, May I know, is there any proposal to give subsidy to the small growers for new plantations ?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE : Sir, the proposal in the Fifth Plan period, is to increase the replantation subsidy for holdings upto 4 hectares to the level of Rs. 7,000 per hectare and above 4 hectares, to the level of Rs. 5,000 per hectare. We have a proposal for introducing a loan scheme—not exactly subsidy—for new plantations also.

SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN : May I know, whether the demand for natural rubber and rubber products has been increasing in the country and outside the country ? If so, what are the steps taken by the Government to increase the production ?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE : Sir, it is true that in the light of the new international situation, the demand for natural rubber is likely to increase. Already, very encouraging results have been shown. It is precisely for this reason, we are trying to increase the production and in the Fourth

Plan, we allocated Rs. 2 crores and 32 lakhs for replantation subsidy, and in the Fifth Plan, under a crash programme, we have increased this to Rs. 10 crores.

SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI: Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister, what will be the percentage of decrease in the production of synthetic rubber during the Fifth Plan, when the production of natural rubber increases?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: By increase in the production of natural rubber, the production of synthetic rubber is not likely to decrease. This depends on so many other factors.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: It is difficult to understand the extremely technical and complicated answer given. The simple question is, when will we have rubber products, such as tyres, tubes etc. which will not be sold at exhorbitant prices in the black-market? There is a premium of over thousand rupees on tyres and other products. Talking of production in the air is of no use. Production should be realistic in the sense that people are not called upon to pay twice or thrice or even four times the price unofficially. When will that stage be reached? In terms of expenditure, it is very impressive.

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: Within the limited scope of this question, I was answering that we have got enough availability of natural rubber for production in our country. The production of tyres is connected with so many other factors.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: I have understood his difficulty. I do not want any further answer.

Export of Canned Frog Legs From Kerala

†

*569. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH:
DR. KARNI SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to increased demand of canned frog legs, thousands of mini-exporters have sprung up overnight in Kerala State and brown-hopper menace increased ten-fold this year due to the ecological imbalance caused by the disappearance of frogs from the paddy-field as frogs live and thrive on these pests; and

(b) if so, the measures contemplated to avoid such crisis in future?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTERY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) There ware about 29 frozen frogleg exporters from Kerala. Frogs are not known to feed on brown hoppers but are known to feed on mosquito larvae and flies. There are no indications that ecological imbalance has brought about brown hopper menace to paddy cultivation due to catching of frogs for exports.

(b) Does not arise.

MR. SPEAKER: You can keep them without the legs.

SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: The reply is not satisfactory. I want to know whether the brown hopper menace increased manifold and destroyed paddy in some districts of Kerala?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: It is true in this season, the paddy cultivation in Kerala was terribly affected by brown hopper menace: But the frog legs were being exported for the past 6 or 7 years and we have never noticed this phenomenon. It has not been scientifically established that there is a relation between brown hoppers and frogs.

SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Is the Government cent per cent sure that brown hoppers are not the feed of frogs and if so, what is the basis of this surety?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: I cannot vouchsafe for it. I was only saying that it has not been scientifically established that frogs are feeding on brown hoppers.

DR. KARNI SINGH: Being a vegetarian this entire idea of killing and eating frogs is abhorrent to me. I am afraid I will have

to disagree with the minister that frogs do not eat brown hoppers. I have a very authoritative article here by Mr. Fateh Ally, who is a renewned ecologist wherein he has said that frogs do eat brown hoppers and it is upsetting the ecological balance. in view of the fact that the green revoution is being upset by wanton destruction of these frogs, whether Government has any proposals to control the catching of the frogs and for the humane killing of frogs, instead of throwing them alive into cauldrons as reported? Is Government aware that almost Rs. 1 crore worth of frog legs have been rejected by the American Federal Drug Administration, whether another Rs. 4 crores worth of frog legs are likely to be rejected and whether Rs. 2 crores worth of frog legs are already on the high seas facing rejection by the United States ?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE : In the light of the categorical statement of the hon. Member, who is very knowledgeable, we are prepared to re-examine this another aspect is. even now we are not allowing indiscriminate catching and killing of frogs During the breeding season, i. e. June to August, we have prohibited catching of the frogs. It is also stipulated that frogs below a particular size cannot be caught so that it may be allowed to have its full growth. There is also provision for quality control. The rejection referred to by the hon. Member is not due to this; it is due to the suspected infection by the sulphonamide.

श्री लालजी भाई : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से मन्त्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूं कि मेंढकों की टांगें जो बाहर भेजी जा रही हैं उसके कारण फसल नष्ट करने वाले कीड़े मकोड़े ज्यादा पैदा हो रहे हैं तो क्या उन कीड़ों को समाप्त करने के लिये कोई ऐसी दवाई निकाली जायेगी या कोई ऐसा यंत्र निकाला जायेगा जिस पर मेंढ़कों के आयात से कम खर्चा पड़े।

SHRI A. C. GEORGE : This is a suggestion. I will pass it on to the Agriculture Ministry.

SHRI VARKEY GEORGE : In view of the high foreign exchange earning potential of export of frog legs, may I know whether there are any schemes with the Government of India for starting frog breeding farms in Kerala?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE : I agree with one part of the question of the hon. Member that there is very bright prospect of export of frog legs and it is showing a steady rise. This year it is expected to be of the order of Rs. 3.6 crores. Regarding the suggestion for a breeding farm, the Government of India do not have a proposal. I am not quite sure whether the Kerala Government also have got a proposal.

SHRI VARKEY GEORGE : Why do you not start one?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE : It is a suggestion for action.

SHRI B. V. NAIK : Even though we talk of the icological problem in a humorous way, I think it is bristling with a large number of problems. Coming as I do from an area adjacent to Kerala, I know that many friends from the neighbouring Kerala State come to our area for catching these frogs. Sir, we are assembling today after Mahavir Jayanti, which we are celebrating in the memory of a person who preached compassion for all living beings. We have been exporting not only frog legs but also snakes, shrimps, snails, lobsters and crocodiles. I would like this to be examined from its true perspective, from the icological perspective. The hon. Minister comes from Kerala and he has been dealing with this subject as Minister of Commerce. May I know whether it is not a fact that the catching of frogs has been causing an imbalance? It is not necessary to ask expert icologists to get an answer to this question. If you ask any farmer who has paddy fields in the West Coast, he will tell you that the catching of frogs has an adverse effect on the crops. Therefore, while you may permit the export of things like shrimps and snails,

which satisfy the exotic palate of the Western or Chinese gourmet, will you put some stringent restrictions on the export of at least frogs which have a healthy impact so far as agriculture is concerned?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: In the slight of the detailed case that has been put forward by the hon. Member, we are prepared to examine it from all aspects.

MR. SPEAKER : The only compromise that we can have between both of you is that we can separate the legs without killing the frogs!

कोलम्बो योजना में भारत को हुए लाभ

*571. **श्री मूलचन्द डागा** : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) एशियाई देशों के विकास में कोलम्बो योजना का क्या योगदान है; और

(ख) इससे भारत को कितना, किस क्षेत्र में और किस रूप में लाभ हुआ है ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) The Colombo Plan provides an embrella for the extension of economic assistance from one member country to another on a voluntary basis through bilateral channels. According to the latest report of the Colombo Plan Council, in quantitative terms, the cumulative disbursements by member Governments for technical assistance under the Plan, which covers the South and South East Asia Region amounted to US $ 1,855 million up to the end of 1972.

(b) On the basis of requests made by the Government of India, India has derived benefits mainly in the shape of expert and consultancy services, and of training facilities for Indian personnel abroad, in various developmental sectors like agriculture, health, education, industary and commerce; works and communication, public administration etc.

Upto the end of December 1972, India had received training facilities for 11,462 persons, and the services of 1609 experts in various fields. In addition, there have been some cases of assistance by way of grant of ancillary equipment and commodities.

श्री मूलचन्द डागा : अध्यक्ष जी, जो रिपोर्ट है कोलम्बो प्लान की उस का जो कांस्टीट्यूशन है वह इस प्रकार है :

"The overall rate of growth in the developing countriies of the Colombo Plan witnessed a certain deceleration over the year 1970-71. The combined growth rate for the ten countries for which data are available, namely, India, Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore declined from 5.5 per cent in 1970 to less than 5 per cent in 1971."

तो 1950 के बाद जो कोलम्बो प्लान की विकास की योजना चली है उस से हम को क्या क्या लाभ हुआ, या डिक्लाइन हुआ ? यदि हां, तो क्या कारण है ?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : The question of rate of growth should not be combined with technical assistance and other things because when you make a judgement or analyse the reasons for the growth you have to go into the entire field of economics. Here we are considering the very limited question of what exactly is the assistance we have got from the Colombo Plan. I have given the information to the hon. Member. Under the Colombo Plan we mainly derived benefits in the shape of expert and consultancy services and training facilities for Indians personnel abroad. I repeat for the information of the hon. Member that upto the end of December, 1972 we have received training facilities for 11,462 persons and the services of 1609 experts in various fields.

श्री मूलचन्द डागा : एक तरफ़ तो आप यह कह रहे हैं कि बाहर से ऐक्सपर्ट आ जाते हैं और दूसरी तरफ़ यह हो रहा है कि हिन्दुस्तान से ब्रेन ड्रेन हो रहा है। तो इन दोनों में कंट्रेडिक्शन है। एक तरफ़ आप कहते हैं कि हिन्दुस्तान के साइंटिस्ट्स और विशेषज्ञ भारत से बाहर जा रहे हैं और दूसरी तरफ़ आप कह रहे हैं कि इन से हम को लाभ होगा। इन दोनों में कंट्रेडिक्शन क्यों है ?

श्री यशवन्त राव चव्हाण : जो हकीकत है वह मैं कह रहा हूं। दोनों बातें सही हो सकती हैं।

I will say one thing in addition to this. Under the Colombo Plan we also send our technical experts to other countries So, all the three things are going on simultaneously. This is a fact of life.

Selection of Scheduled Castes candidates for recruitment to clerical grade by Dena Bank

*575. SHRI CHANDRA SHALLANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of Scheduled Caste candidates were selected for recruitment to clerical grade by Dena Bank on the basis of a written test and interview in 1972;

(b) whether the selected candidates were got medically examined;

(c) whether they have not been appointed till now; and

(d) the action Government propose to take in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Dena Bank has reported that against indents placed on 10 Employment Exchanges for sponsoring candidates for the post of clerks, 610 persons were sponsored and all applicants were asked to appear for the written test. Of the 224, that appeared for the written test, 63 candidates were selected for appointment as clerks by the bank on the basis of a written test and interview conducted in 1972. Out of these candidates 22 belong to Scheduled Castes and 6 to Scheduled Tribes. Formal appointment orders were issued to 41 candidates after completion of medical tests, including 12 Scheduled Castes candidates and 6 Scheduled Tribes candidates.

Letters intimating the selection were also sent to the second batch of 22 candidates which included 10 belonging to Scheduled Castes. Some of these candidates have completed their medical examination. As, at this stage, the bank employees' Union raised certain objections to this recruitment on the grounds of alleged irregularities, the bank has kept in abeyance further action in the matter. The bank management is looking into the matter and hopes to come to a decision shortly.

श्री चन्द्र शैलानी : अध्यक्ष जी, मैं आप के माध्यम से मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहूंगा कि श्री कृष्ण गोपाल, देव नगर, नई दिल्ली, श्री एच० सी० जाजोरिया, करौल बाग, नई दिल्ली, श्री के० एल० शर्मा, हौजखास, नई दिल्ली आदि कुछ कैंडीडेट्स हैं जिन को कि 28-4-73 को पर्सोनल मैनेजर, देना बैंक की तरफ़ से एक अपौइंटमेंट लैटर मिला और उन्होंने यह आदेश दिया था कि दिल्ली रीजन की जो देना बैंक की शाखायें हैं उन में इन लोगों को नियुक्त कर दिया जाय। लेकिन जैसा विश्वस्त सूत्रों से पता चला है देना बैंक के मैनेजमेंट में और ऐमप्लाईज यूनियन में कुछ झगड़ा था और उन्होंने उस मामले को वापस भेज दिया जिस की वजह से शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स के कैंडीडेट्स को अभी तक कोई स्थान नहीं मिला है। तो मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि इस संबंध में अब तक क्या कार्यवाही की गई है और क्या इस संबंध में इन कैंडीडेट्स की तरफ़ से किसी प्रकार का कोई रिप्रेजेन्टेशन मिला है और लिखा पढ़ी की है ? यदि हां, तो उस के जवाब में उन्होंने अब तक क्या किया है ?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : I have received some complaints from the Members of Parliament and other people also. It is true that in the two instalments the Dena Bank has tried to recruit some people. The total number was 63. The first instalment of it was 41 people who were selected in August; appointment letters were sent to them and they have already joined their posts; more than ten persons belonging to Scheduled Castes are

included in that. The controversy arose between the Employees' Union and the management about the implementation of the orders in respect of the remaining 22 persons, and that matter has to be inquired into. The thing has reached such a stage that there seems to be some element of truth in the allegations of the Employees' Union. Therefore, the question was whether to completely give up the appointments of these 22 persons. But now we find that intimations of appointments have been conveyed to those particular persons. So, we are trying to discuss this matter with the Employees' Association, at least in regard to Scheduled Caste persons, whether they will be willing to withdraw their objection.

श्री चंद्र शैलानी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं सदन का ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूं कि सरकार के द्वारा बड़ी बड़ी योजनाएं शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स के लोगों के लिये बनायी जाती हैं और बड़ी डींग मारी जाती है, लेकिन वास्तव में क्या किया जाता है इस के कुछ आंकड़े मैं पेश करता हूं। 29 अक्टूबर 1972 को 610 कैंडीडेट्स को रिटन टेस्ट के लिये बुलाया गया देना बैंक में और उस के बाद इन में से 126 कैंडीडेट्स को ओरल इंटरव्यू के लिये बुलाया गया और इन में से 41 लोगों को प्रथम बैच में स्थान दिया गया उन्हें नियुक्त कर दिया गया। उस के बाद दूसरा बैच आता है 22 कैंडीडेट्स का इन में से 10 शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स के लोग थे लेकिन इन 10 में से एक को भी अभी तक कोई स्थान नहीं मिला, बाकी सब को स्थान मिल चुका है। तो इन 10 कैंडीडेट्स को जिन्होंने रिटन टेस्ट में क्वालीफ़ाई किया, इंटरव्यू में पास किया, डाक्टरी भी उन की ठीक हुई और अपने मूल प्रमाण-पत्रों की प्रतिलिपियां भी पेश कर दीं, अभी तक उन को स्थान नहीं मिला है। मंत्री महोदय के दिल में दबे हुए लोगों के लिये स्थान है तो इन 10 बच्चों के भविष्य के बारे में आप क्या करने जा रहे हैं ?

श्री यशवन्तराव चव्हान : मैं कोशिश करूंगा जो लोग सेलेक्ट हो गये हैं वह चुने जायें। इस की कोशिश में हूं, और जो कुछ होगा वह माननीय सदस्यों को बता दूंगा।

SHRI R. P. ULAGANAMBI : May I know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that the management of Dena Bank had an agreement with the Union that outsiders would not be recruited for posts in the bang since the promotion prospects of those working there would be affected, and now the trade unioin are also opposed to the appointment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the basis of the directive issued by the Home Ministry to fulfill the reserved quota and that is why the Management have dropped the list of selected candidates, and if this is a fact, what action Government have taken or propose to take in this matter ?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : As I have said, the question arose about the appointment of 22 persons amongst whom there are a number of Scheduled Caste people also. The Association raised the question about the entire number of 22 persons. Now we find that there are certain elements of the complaint which appear to be somewhat true, somewhat substantiated. Therefore, the question is whether they can completely reopen the question of appointment of these 22 persons. Further talks have been going on between the Bank and the Union whether, at least in the case of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe persons, the question can be reconsidered and the appointments which have already been made can be followed up.

SHRI R. P. ULAGANAMBI : The President's directive is there to implement a certain percentage. But the Trade Union is against this proposal. I want to know whether you are going to implement the directive issued by the President.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : I do not think the trade union as such is against any particular instructions given by the Government in this matter. Even if they are against it, Government wants to implement the instructions issued.

SHRI K. P. ULAGANAMBI : The Home Ministry have given a specific directive to nationalised banks including Dena Bank to implement a certain percentage. If it is so, which one you are going to implement—President's directive or the Union's proposal ?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : Specific instructions to nationalised banks were issued sometime in November, 1970—about reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Of course, they are being pursued. There is one difficulty about it. I can understand the hon. Members' point of view. In some cases, in some banks, the agreement between the trade unions and all the banks is that in case of appointments to officers' posts they are to be made only by promotion. That is one of the difficulties. Therefore, in these cases there is no direct recruitment and there certainly remains a cause for a grievance. As far as the direct recruitment is concerned, reservations are being implemented.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: It has become very much clear from the hon. Minister's statement that bank authorities as also the employees' unions of those banks are violating the constitutional provisions and obligations as mentioned in Article 325. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether in view of this specific constitutional obligation, all cases regardinig recruitment and promotion of employees belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be treated seperately and in such cases if any one, whether the bank employees' unions or the bank authorities, stands in the way, what positive action the Government is taking against the officers who are violating the constitutional obligation ?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : It will be unfair to the trade union movement also because none of them has taken objection to the reservations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as such. They have not taken that objection. .(*Interruptions*)

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : On the contrary, the trade unions are defending the rights of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. Why should he say so, Sir ?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : They are not opposing the reservation clause as such. They were against certain other methods of selection procedures. Their complaint was, for example, that the candidates who were selected for appearing in the written test were only from certain employment exchanges and not from all them. Their complaints are of this type. They are not against reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as such. On the contrary, we are trying to negotiate with them that at least in case of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes they should withdraw their objections and I think I would succeed with the co-operation of hon. members. .(*Interruptions*)

Recommendation of banking commission regarding five days week for banks

*576. SHRI M. SUDARSANAM:
SHRI RAM PRAKASH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state :

(a) whether Banking Commission had recommended switching over to five days week for banks; and

(b) if so, the decision of Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) The Banking Commission had recommended that "to begin with and on an experimental basis, administrative offices of banks may remain fully closed on Saturdays and, to compensate for the loss of man hours, the working hours on other week days should be suitable enhanced. The question of introducing similar change in the bank offices dealing with the public may be considered later."

(b) No decision has yet been taken on the recommendation of the Commission.

SHRI M. SUDARSANAM : Now that the Banking Commission, after a very careful study, has recommended in favour of a five day week in the interests of the economy of the country, may I know whether the hon. Minister will be pleased to give top priority to this also for favourable consideration of this recommendation ?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : This question is such that it is not peculiar only to the banking industry. It is a national question and we cannot isolate this question about employees and their service conditions as far as the timings are concerned. So, one will have to be a little more patient in this matter. Unless we take a general view of the matter, I cannot assure that this question will be given priority.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : पांच दिन का सप्ताह करने की जो आयोग ने सिफारिश की है वह किन तर्कों के आधार पर की है ? मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूं कि उन तर्कों के बारे में आपका क्या कहना है ?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : Now, I think he is trying to cross-examine about the contents of the Commission's recommendations. May I recommend to him to read the report so that he can get all the arguments for it ?

SHRI K. P. ULAGANAMBI *rose*—

MR. SPEAKER : I think there is nothing in it. It is a simple question of five-day week. The report of the Banking Commission is already a published document.

SHRI K. P. ULAGANAMBI one relevant point I want to raise.

MR. SPEAKER : I can judge the relevancy, only myself and not your.

SHRI K. P. ULAGANAMBI : May I know from the hon. Minister whether there is any proposal to start the working hours of the banks at 9 a. m. instead of the present 10 a. m. ? If it is so, when are they going to implement it ?

MR. SPEAKER : It is a completely separate question.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN I have no information about it.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri P.G. Mavalankar—absent.

Shri Dhamankar.

Relaxing of Restrictions on Leading Indian Firms

*578. SHRI DHAMANKAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Institute of Foreign Trade has suggested to Government to relax existing restrictions on some leading Indian firms to enable them to operate on international basis by revising some of the control procedures ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI DHAMANKAR : I would like to know whether the Institute of Foreign Trade has suggested to the Government internationalisation of some of the leading firms, both in the public and the private sectors, in order to expand trade and economic cooperation with the oil-producing Gulf countries ?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA : Yes, Sir.

SHRI DHAMANKAR : I want to know what does 'Yes' mean.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA : Favourably with some conditions and qualifications.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Mukhtiar Singh Malik—absent.

Shri R. V. Swaminathan.

New Strategy for Export of Electronic Goods

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*580. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :
SHRI ISHAQUE SAMBHALI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering a new startegy for the export of electronic goods ;

(b) whether national advisory committee met recently on 11th March, 1974 to discuss the issue ; and

(c) if so, the outcome of the discussions ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) to (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Government have been reviewing, on a continuing basis, exports of electronic goods and adopting suitable measures for promotion of their exports.

(b) and (c). The National Advisory committee on Electronics met on March 11, 1974 and discussed various aspects of electronic exports.

The main points that emerged from the discussions laid emphasis on the following aspects of our strategy for exports :—

(i) Idle capacity which exists in the electronic industry could usefully be mobilised for export production.

(ii) Raw materials shortages should not be allowed to hamper export production.

(iii) Changes in the shopping list for permissible imports should be made after due consideration of their likely impact on exports.

(iv) Various import duties result in locking-up of funds during export production, and this situation should be improved by lowering import duties.

(v) Suitable fiscal incentives should be given to exporters.

(vi) Foreign travel for export promotion should be liberalised.

(vii) As a long term startegy, it is necessary to identify the areas of production, its capacities, the scope in the world market, the status of the Indian industry in terms of production, technology, and competitiveness, and make specific recommendations in regard to broadbasing the industry.

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN : From the statement placed on the Table I find the hon. Minister has not given any specific answer. He has stated only that certain things were discussed by the National Advisory Committee. I want to know from the hon. Minister which were the salient points that were discussed by the committee are being implemented by the Government in the interests of exports.

SHRI A. C. GEORGE : In the statement we have given six or seven main points which will be the guidelines for promotion and export of electronic goods. Over and above, that, it has been mentioned in this House that we have already started work on an electronics export and processing zone at the Santa Cruz and more than 27 units have already started functioning and are expected to go into production.

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN : I want to know from the hon. Minister as to which are the countries where we have chances for our exports and who are the main competitors from the point of price as also quality ?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE : Our major importing countries are Egypt, Australia, EEC countries, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Tanzania, Dubai and a few other countries.

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN : Who are our main competitors with regard to price ?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE : The main competitors are Japan, South Korea and Taiwan.

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN : With regard to quality as also the price factor, I want to know.

MR. SPEAKER : These should have all been combined in one question. You go on putting your question piece by piece.

SHRI A. C. GEORGE : The quality of our products is very high and we are making our best efforts to see that the prices are also competitive because right now we have to import all these raw materials. In this export processing zone we will allow the units to bring raw materials which they will purchase at international prices as they are meant for exports alone.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : The hon. Minister said that great export potential is there. I want to know whether you are going to specially encourage the small-scale sector in the field of electronics. Sir, in Punjab and other places in the country, small-scale industrialists and entrepreneurs have made miraculous progress in this field. I want to know whether he is going to make special effort to encourage these small-scale people in the field of electronics so that they get facilities for import of components specifically with a view to export as that would be more competitive in the small-scale sector.

SHRI A. C. GEORGE : One main advantage of electronic industry is that it can be a highly decentralised process and can be located in the small-scale sector. There are more than thousand units which are engaged in the manufacture of different components. Electronic sub-manufacture items are in the small-scale sector. Even in the Santa Cruz export processing zone, all units are not big but they are medium units.

मोटर गाड़ियों का आयात

*584. **श्री लालजी भाई** : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि भारत सरकार के उन मंत्रालयों तथा विभागों के नाम क्या है जिन्होंने वर्ष 1972-73 और 1973-74 के दौरान मोटर गाड़ियों का आयात किया है ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE : The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

श्री लालजी भाई : अध्यक्ष महोदय, इक्कीस दिन पहले नोटिस देने पर भी मंत्री महोदय इस जानकारी को सभा-पटल पर नहीं रख सके हैं। इस का क्या कारण है और इस के पीछे क्या रहस्य है ? क्या मंत्री महोदय कोई निश्चित अवधि बतायेंगे, जिस के अन्दर यह जानकारी सभा-पटल पर रख दी जायेगी ?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE : The question says that information is wanted about imported motor vehicles concerning all Ministries/Departments of the Government. It is a very big affair concerning all departments/Ministries, and the information which he wants is spread over two years. To give a precise answer to this will take some more time. I can assure him that I will try to collect the information.

MR. SPEAKER : You can lay it on the Table. He has gone to such a wide range of information. In such cases it is upto the Minister to inform the Speaker also that he wants more time.

श्री लालजी भाई : अध्यक्ष महोदय, नाइट्रोजन खाद के बारे में मैंने तीन बार प्रश्न का नोटिस दिया और तीनों बार उस को अनस्टार्ड प्रश्नों में डाल दिया गया। अब इक्कीस दिन पहले नोटिस देने पर भी इस तरह का जवाब मिलना उचित नहीं है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अगर मिनिस्टर साहब ने इनफ़ॉर्मेशन कलेक्ट करने के लिए ज्यादा टाइम लेना हो, तो वह सवाल को यहां लाने से पहले टाइम को एक्सटेंड करने के लिए कह दिया करें।

श्री नवल किशोर सिंह: मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि गाड़ियों को इम्पोर्ट करने के संबंध में विभिन्न मंत्रालयों और विभागों के लिए सरकार की नीति क्या है। यह प्रश्न रेलवेट है। मैंने आंकड़ों के संबंध में नहीं पूछा है। मैंने नीति के बारे में पूछा है। सरकार कोई भी काम करती है, तो किसी निश्चित नीति के आधार पर करती है।

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Sinha, the question was about the names of Ministries and Departments of Government of India which imported the vehicles. Only the names of the ministries and departments are wanted.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SINHA : Import is according to some policy.

MR. SPEAKER : I think this could have been easily got. They want just the names only and nothing else from you.

SHRI A. C. GEORGE : In a reply to any question in Parliament and, especially, when it is asked about the names of the Ministries and Departments of Government of India which imported the vehicles for the years 1972-73 and 1973-74, naturally, it will require time. Normally, no department or ministry is importing any cars because they are getting cars from the STC which are surrendered by different diplomats and all that. Only in the case of imports that are made through the agencies of India Supply Mission, Washington and London and the Director General, Supplies and Disposals, that is permitted. Otherwise import is not permitted.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, we shall pass on to the next question . Q. No. 586.

Development of Port Blair as a Tourist Centre during Fifth Plan

*586. SHRI D. P. JADEJA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any provision for the development of Port Blair as a tourist centre during the Fifth Five Year Plan period; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI) : (a) and (b). A provision of Rs. 9 lakhs has been made in the Fifth Five Year Plan of the Union Territory of the Andaman & Nicobar Islands for the development of facilities in the island for domestic tourists. The question of developing additional facilities for accommodation and transport for foreign tourist to visit Port Blair or other parts of the island could be considered when it is possible to remove all restrictions on the entry of foreigners into the islands. The matter would be kept constantly under review.

SHRI D. P. JADEJA : The discontinuance of the Indian Airlines services to Port Blair itself indicates that the small project is being shelved.

DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI : No, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : I declare the Question Hour is now over. You do not get up for the second time as I have declared the Question Hour over.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

Venue of World Cup Hockey Tournament

SNQ 5. SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE : Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE & CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the venue of the World Cup Hockey Tournament has been changed by the International Hokcey Federation from Bombay to Malaysia;

(b) whether this is due to the unseemly dissensions in the Indian Hockey Federation; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The International Hockey Federation at its meeting held in Munich in August, 1972, allotted the Third World Cup to India and proposed it be held at Bombay in 1975, with Shri J. D. Nagarvala, then President, Bombay Hockey Association, as its organising Director. The International Body reviewed the position at its meeting at Cannes from 21st to 24th March, 1974, and decided to shift the venue from India to Malaysia (Kuala Lumpur). While doing so, the International Federation however did not nominate any organising Director. The reason given by the International Hockey Federation for shifting the venue, as reported in the Press on 27th March, 1974, was that the Indian Hockey Federation could not guarantee that a Pakistani team would be able to play in India, and that there had been developments of a political nature necessitating the decision. After Government's prompt rebuttal of this allegation on 27th March, 1974, the President of the International Federation shifted his stand according to Press Reports and claimed that the main reason for the change in the venue was that the Indian Hockey Federation could not fulfil the conditions imposed by the International Federation when it allotted the tournament to India in 1972. This appears to be afterthought.

According to our information the President of the International Hockey Federation had met the Pakistani authorities in the first week of March, 1974, and was influenced by their reported reluctance to participate in the tournament if held in India, till such time as diplomatic relations were restored between the two countries.

Government consider this politically motivated decision of the International Hockey Federation as unfortunate.

(c) Does not arise.

SHRI H. N. MUKHERJEE : Sir this is a slap in the face of our country, which is the home of hockey, and of its greatest players. I am astounded to hear what the Minister has said. There has been a long process during which India's name has been dragged in the mud by the two policemen, Ashwini Kumar and Nagarwala of the Indian Hockey Federation. We are told that on top of its dismal record in so far as selection and performance of Indian hockey is concerned and their own quarrelsomeness—we remember how they tried to stop Gentle and Prithipal Singh from being included in the Indian squad—the Indian Hockey Federation went out of its way to say that India could not offer adequate hospitality to Pakistan and that was the first ostensible reason for which the Federation had to bring about this shift. May I know why the Government of India in the Ministry of Education, Social Welfare and Culture and the All India Council of Sports, which was re-constituted with a lot of fanfare, are sitting tight over this matter and doing nothing ?

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN : I would like to deny it, as the Government have done earlier by issuing a statement. There is no question of any authority in India—either governmental or sports—having given indication to anyone that a Pakistani team would not be able to come and play in India or its security and safety would not be fully assured. That statement we have already issued. We know it for a fact that this matter was not raised at the meeting of the Federation which was held late in March at which both the factions were represented. Both Mr. Nagarwala and Mr. Ashwini Kumar were there in their personal capacities. There was no question of their giving an impression to the international organisation that as a result of their differences the conduct of the tournament would be at all affected. Therefore, I would not like the two issues to be mixed up.

From the information that we have at our disposal, I think we cannot help coming to the conclusion that the decision of the International Federation was politically motivated and as one of their officials said, "extra-sportive".

So far as the other point is concerned, I share tthe concern of the House over the unseemly quarrel that has been going on within the Indian Hockey Federation and also in many other federations. So far as the Hockey Federation is concerned, now virtually a situation of deadlock has been reached, with each party having brought a stay order from court against the other. We have, therefore, done two or three things to save the situation as best as we can, although our powers are limited.

Firstly, we have deputed coaches from the National Institute of Sports, Patiala, to watch the performance of the players and to select a number of players to whom intensive coaching would be given so that even while the fight goes on in the Federation, the actual training of players and the coaching of players does not suffer.

Secondly, we cannot possibly give grants to either of the two factions until the matter is sorted out, in view of the legal complications. But we are attempting to use our good offices and we hope that the All India Council of Sports which is going to meet shortly will also use its good offices to try to bring about a solution to this deadlock.

So far as the Federations in general are concerned, we are deeply conscious of the difficulties tthat have been caused in the promotion of sports because of their internal functioning, and solely with a view to enable them to perform their duty by sports and by the people of this country, we propose to take a number of regulatory steps which would not affect their autonomy but those regulatory steps would have to be guidences which would have to be accepted before grants are given by the Government of India to them. These are:

(1) No office-bearer of a Federation/ Association shall hold office for more than one consecutive term :

(2) No person shall be an office-bearer of more than one federation at a given time;

(3) The accounts of the federation shall be properly maintained and 'audited' within a fixed period;

(4) Each federation shall appoint national coaches with the prior approval of the All India Council of Sports;

(5) All the federations shall hold annually at least two competitions for specific age groups at the junior and senior level; these competitions will be organised through inter-block and inter-district competitions in the states leading to national level, and the membership shall be confined to the States and other specially affiliated unions.

These are the main guidelines which we propose to issue.

SHRI H. N. MUKHERJEE : I find that the Minister and the Government are unable at least for the time being for legal or whatever other complications, to discipline these miserable policemen whom I have named, who have made a mess of the whole thing. I am very sorry. I would at least like to know—that from what the hon. Minister says, it appears that the Pakistani politicians are always in a position to poison the ears of authority in international organisations even in the sphere of sports. In view of the fact that, of course, the Western world is oriented against us and in the sphere of sports also they are dominant, do I take it that Indian diplomacy has more or less ceased to function in so far as our international contact in the sphere of sports is concerned, or do we have any

idea that the good offices of the Ministry as well as of sister Ministries are utilised in order to see that the name of India is not tarnished? Do we after this kind of decision truckle down and agree to sending our team to Malaysia or wherever else it might be or do we propose to take any stance in order to register our sense of pride at least in so far as hockey is concerned?

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN : So far as this particular suggestion of the hon. Member is concerned, we are already considering it and we are holding discussions with the External Affairs Ministry.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE : These two miserable specimens have brought havoc to the sports world . . .

SHRI PILOO MODY : I do not approve of this language.

MR. SPEAKER : This is the third time this is happening.

SHRI PILOO MODY : For the third time—why don't you correct him?

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE : Had I known that any one of them was his uncle, I would have used different language.

SHRI PILOO MODY : The day you are looking at people as something more than your uncle or nephew you will be a better man.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE : I am looking at you.

SHRI PILOO MODY : Just become somebody objects to your behaviour, you come and say that he is his nephew ?

MR. SPEAKER : I have not been able to follow what is going on between you.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE : These two officials who went there behaved in the most deplorable and obnoxious manner. My question to the Minister is utterly straightforward in this respect: what disciplinary action does he contemplate against these two people ? The second question, which Prof. Mukerjee also asked, is this. We want something more than a reply that it is under consideration. Since the French official started worrying about our relations with Pakistan, if nothing else, at least the minimum that we can do to register our protest against this blatant affront to our sense of self-respect is to declare that our team will not go and participate in this tournament. Will he give us a categorical assurance to that effect ?

SHRI H. M. PATEL : Of course, we should not participate.

PROF S. NURUL HASAN : So far as the second part is concerned, I have already stated that the matter is under consideration and am, therefore, not in a position to make any announcement straightway. So far as the first part is concerned, I would not like adjectives to be used in the manner they are being used about persons who are not present in the House. But I would make one submission, that insofar as this International Federation meeting is concerned, both these officials took a joint stand and the report given to us by one has been fully corroborated by the other. Their internal quarrels had nothing to do with the decision taken by the International Federation.

SHRI H. M. PATEL : The first point has been answered, but the second point regarding the participation of the Indian team in this tournament remains. Since the decision of the International Federation was politically-motivated, as you have said, and in view of Pakistan's intimation to them that since their relations are not on a satisfactory plane with India, they will not be able to play in India, this being the reason for changing the venue, would you not announce—it is not a question of consideration—that we would not participate for the reason that is mentioned?

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN : Whatever decision Government take, I will be very pleased to communicate it to the House. The House is fully entitled to it. But I would urge that this is a matter where we should not rush into a decision. We should consider all pros and cons and then take a decision after mature cosnideration. We should not act in a huff.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Since this decision had a political overtone in the sense that when it was taken our relations with Pakistan were a little different, in view of the fact that now, after the recent agreement on settlement of outstanding issues/with Pakistan and steps taken thereon, and the present condition of good relationship. Now things have changed. So, is it possible to take up the question with the International Hockey Federation in view of the consideration that we had given to the Pakistan Government to restore the venue to India, because it is to be held in 1975—

AN HON. MEMBER : It is impossible.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : If it is impossible. the Hockey Federation may take it up. In any case, let us not ever consider the question of withdrawing from the tournament because we will make the confusion worse confounded if political considerations are brought in. I do not think it will be sportsmanship at all to bring in political considerations. We should not bring in any politics in the field of sprots; that was the field which was kept away from politics. Our prestige also is involved in this.

MR. SPEAKER : He is giving suggestions only.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : My question was, will they take it up with the International Federation to restore the venue, and secondly, will you consider the question of not withdrawing from the tournament.

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN : All these points will be considered.

DR. KARNI SINGH : I would like just to make an observation, because I had heard certain remarks when I was in Munich during the Olympics that the organising committees are sometimes anxious about the relationship between unfriendly countries following what happened with the Israeli team in Munich and it is possible that might have been the motivating factor rather than anything else which can be attributed to this.

I do feel that India has pulled out of every sport; we have pulled out of shooting; we pulled out of golf, and now we want to pull out of hockey. What is going to be India's image in the sports field ? Therefore, I would like to know whether the Government is going to take a definite stand that in future if such things happen in international bodies, our representatives will put up a fight in the international body itself, because most of the federations cannot send their representatives because of foreign exchange restrictions. In shooting, our representatives never go to the international bodies, and therefore we cannot keep South Africa out. So, what is the Government's policy with regard to that ?

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN : In the present case, there were two of our representatives present in the international body meeting. So far as the future policy is concerned, as and when the situation arises, I am sure it would be dealt with accordingly.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : The hon. Minister stated in his reply that he also feels that there is a dispute, an internal quarrel, within the Hockey Federation. I would like to know whether the Minister was not earlier informed when the decision was going to be taken by the International Hockey Federation, about the indiscipline in our own Hockey Federation, and if so, whether apprehending it the Ministry took any decision or

any initiative to persuade our Hockey Federation and to persuade the International Hockey Federation not to change the decision in this regard?

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN: Two representatives of the Indian Hockey Federation who attended the meeting of the International Federation, before going there, gave full assurance that their internal quarrels would not affect their stand at the international meeting. From the reports that I have received, they kept their word.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : I would like to know from the hon. Minister—at least he can assure us that Pakistan Government and the Hockey Association in India will never lack any hospitality as far as sports is concerned, because when we were having strained relations with China we sent a table-tennis team knowing fully well that they will have proper respect for sports—whether the Ministry will attempt once again that this venue is changed from Malaysia to India? My feeling is that our boys in the Association are more interested in having it outside India to enoy themselves than in India. That is one of the reasons.

My second question is, when the Central Government is so strong in dissolving the Legislative Assemblies every day, day-in-and-day-out, why can't they possibly dissolve this Hockey Federation once and for all and form a new Federation?

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN : I referred to the statement in which an assurance was given on behalf of the Government of India. With your permission, I would read two sentences from it, which make the position of the Government of India very clear.

"In so far as participation of the Pakistani Team in this tournament is concerned, necessary permission would certainly have been granted by Government and adequate arrangements for their safety would have been ensured. It is also clarified that when the first world-*cum* hockey tournament was proposed to be held in Pakistan in 1971 Government had permitted the Indian Hockey Federation to send a team for that tournament. When subsequently the tournament was not held there was a proposal to hold it in India and Government had permitted the Indian Hockey Federation to invite a Pakistani Hockey Team to visit India and had undertaken to make all necessary arrangements for their safety."

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Cannot they dissolve the hockey federation ?

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN : Our Constitution fortunately guarantees freedom of association to its citizens. How can Government dissolve a federation like this ?... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : It can be superceded.

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI : The hon. Minister states that the internal squabbles of the Indian Hockey Federation had nothing to do with the decision of the international Hockey Federation but the fact remains that because of the internal squabbles our representatives could not take a very definite stand in the International Federation and that is why it could take such a decision. It has happened in the past also. There was some talk of enquiry into the affairs of the Hockey Federation when we lost the Olympics. May I know whether any enquiry was made and if so what were the results?

Secondly, in view of the fact that not only in hockey in all sports politics is going on, will the Government make an enquiry into the working of the different sports federations? Thirdly are the Government going to control or supercede them before giving grants? Has the Government any proposal of putting in some representatives in those bodies or telling them that two sportsman chosen by the Government would be in such committees so that the committees function properly and efficiently?

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN : So far as the third point is concerned, I have already submitted that a meeting of the All India Council of Sports is being held on the 10th and 11th of this month and at this meeting representatives of federations have also been invited. I hope that some concrete recommendations will be made by the Council to the Government. There was no enquiry against any federation so far.

SHRI PILOO MODY : The hon. Minister unfortunately has introduced political overtones into this subject by using the word 'politically motivated'. I think that this is unfortunate. If it was necessary to say that this thing was politically motivated it was necessary also to produce and quote for us what the World Federation has said in changing the venue, verbatim. Therefore, I should like to ask him to quote to us what the World Federation has said verbatim so that we can thereafter judge whether it was politically motivated or whether the reply was politically motivated.

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN : Sir, according to Press reports, which quote a statement by Mr. Etienne Glischitch—it is a difficult pronounciation—that the 1975 Field Hockey World Cup Tournament has been moved from Bombay to Kuala Lumpur because India could not guarantee that the Pakistan team would be able to play in Bombay, the Secretary-General of the International Hockey Federation said today. Then, he goes on to say that the World Cup Tournament has been awarded to Bombay but that "developments of a political nature; extra sportive" had led the Federation to have second thoughts and Kuala Lumpur . . .

SHRI PILOO MODY : After this statement now, it is possible to have a discussion. This should have been done in the beginning. If I had caught your eye earlier, this thing could have been clarified earlier. What I want to know, therefore, is, at the time at which this statement was made, did the world body receive an assurance from us, such as the one in your own statement that you have issued? It is a question of timing. I am asking you, did your statement precede his statement or did it come thereafter.

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN : Sir, no assurance was asked for from the Indian Hockey Federation or the Government of India, and therefore, Sir, the moment we first heard about it, we immediately issued a clarification. On the basis of the reports that I have and to which I have given an indication, that this matter had already been discussed early in March, when the President of the International Hockey Federation visited Pakistan. It appears that the Pakistani authorities had given him the impression that they would not play in India until certain conditinns were fulfilled and it seems that this international organisation did not want that the tournament should be held in India and Pakistan should not participate.

SHRI H. M. PATEL : When was this?

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN : This was in early March.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Tourism development programme in Orissa during Fifth Plan

*570. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be please to state :

(a) the broad outlines to tourism development programme of Government in Orissa during the Fifth Five Year Plan ;

(b) whether the development of Marine Drive between Konark and Puri, and of Balasore and Mayurbhanj have been included therein ; and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI): (a) Schemes relating to setting up of a Youth Hostel at Puri and the beautification of the area around the temples at Konarak and Bhubaneshwar have been included in the draft Fifth Five Year Plan Schemes of the Department of Tourism.

In addition, the India Tourism Development Corporation also propose to expand their Travellers Lodge at Bhubaneshwar by adding 25 double rooms to the existing 12 double-rooms; to take over the Railway Hotel at Puri and expand its present capacity of 32 rooms by the addition of 40 double rooms; and to set up a transport unit at Bhubaneshwar.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Problems of Powerloom Industry of Karnataka

*572. SHRI JAGANNATHRAO JOSHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Associations and Societies of Karnataka State cansuming art silk yarn and other man made fibre yarns, recently submitted a memorandum to Government regarding certain problems of the power-loom industry of Karnataka which has been a good foreign exchange earner;

(b) the main suggestions mentioned theirin and Government's reaction to each one of them; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken regarding each one of them?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA): (a) to (c). The Government has not received any Memorandum from Associations and Societies of Karnataka State recently about problem of powerlooms industry consuming artsilk yarn. The Government has, however, received representations from a number of Associations, Co-operative Societies and the Taluk Ruling Congress Committee in the State of Karnataka about mal-practices indulged in by the old Regional Committee for distribution of viscose filament yarn in the State of Karnataka. The main complaint is that the Regional Committee had been distributing yarn without examining credentials of any new Association or its membership and without judging whether they were entitled to receive yarn under the voluntary agreement on the basis of valid permits for installation of powerlooms. The Textile Commission or has been asked to go into the matter of distribution of yarn in the Karnataka State. Regional office of the Textile Commissioner in Coimbatore is looking into it.

कलकत्ता के एक व्यक्ति के पास दो नम्बरों वाला दस रुपये का नोट पाया जाना

*573. **श्री फूलचन्द वर्मा** : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या कलकत्ता के एक व्यक्ति के पास फरवरी, 1974 में दो नम्बरों अर्थात् एल87 263819 और एल 87 263820 वाला दस रुपये का एक नोट था ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसका ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) इस बारे में सरकार का क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार है?

वित्त मंत्री श्री यशवन्तराव चव्हाण : (क) जी हां।

(ख) नम्बरों के एक ही समान न होने का कारण लेटर प्रेस मशीन की, जिस पर वह नोट छापा गया में यान्त्रिक खराबी थी। यह खराबी दूर कर दी गयी है।

(ग) संबद्ध व्यक्तियों के खिलाफ उचित कार्यवाही की जायगी।

Selling of Properties of closed Tea Gardens

*574. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that properties of closed tea gardens are being sold out in a planned manner; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Government have not received any information about closed tea gardens selling their properties.

Tax Evasion

*577. SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated amount of tax evasion annually in the country during the last three years; and

(b) the concrete results achieved during the last three years as a result of steps taken by Government to check tax evasion?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) Government have not made any estimate of annual tax evasion in the country. However, the Direct Taxes Enquiry Committee (Wanchoo Committee) has estimated the income on which tax was evaded for the period 1968-69 at a figure of Rs. 1,400 crores.

(b) As a result of searches made during the last three years, the value of unaccounted assets seized is as under:—

	No. of searches	Value of assets seized
		(Rs. in lakhs)
1971-72 . .	516	243
1972-73 . .	532	454
1973-74 . . (Upto 28-2-74)	518	405

Prosecution for tax evasion in glaring cases was launched in 13,30 and 25 cases during the same period respectively.

Survey operations have been intensified and as a result of such survey, from June, 1972 to December, 1973 more than 1,27,000 cases were added. Penalty for concealment of income was levied during the period 1970-71 to 1972-73 as indicated below:

Year	No. of cases in which penalty was levied	Amount of penalty levied
		Rs. in crores
1970-71 . .	23,625	14.08
1971-72 . .	18,051	9.58
1972-73 . .	12,544	12.19

Over-invoicing and under-invoicing by firms

*579. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Self-reliance Committee, under the Chairmanship of Shri M. G. Kaul, has referred to cases of over-invoicing and under-invoicing by certain big firms;

(b) if so, the names of defaulting firms; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take against those firms?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Guidelines regarding curbs on issue of Bonus shares

*581. SHRI VEKARIA:
SHRI ARVIND M. PATEL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued guidelines regarding curbs on issue of bonus shares; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b). A copy of the Press Note dated 2-3-74 detailing guidelines for the issue of bonus shares by companies is placed on the Table of the House [*Placed in Library. See.* No. LT-6626/74) which supersedes the guidelines issued earlier. The salient features of the new guidelines are:

(i) 30 per cent of the average profit before tax of the company for the previous 3 years should yield a rate of dividend on the expanded capital base of the company at 9 per cent instead of 8 per cent or the average rate of dividend in the preceding three years whichever is lower.

(ii) No dilution of foreign holding will be insisted on at the time of granting approval for the bonus issue.

Items Exported to Bangladesh

*582. SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the items now exported to Bangladesh under the trade agreement; and

(b) whether any private parties in the field are supplying sub-standard goods?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PORF. D. P. CHATTOPADHAYAYA): (a) The Current Trade Agreement with Bangladesh, which came into for on 28th September, 1973, provides for two tiers of trade:

(i) The Balanced Trade and Payments Arrangement in specified commodities of special interest to the two countries, to the extent of Rs. 30.5 crores each way; and

(ii) Trade outside the Balanced Trade and Payments Arrangement, which is regulated in accordance with the normal import, export and foreign exchange regulations.

Details of the commodities exported to Bangladesh under the Balanced Trade & Payments Arrangement are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) Government are not aware of any private parties in India having supplied sub-standard goods to Bangladesh. However, recently there have been complaints from a few importers in Bangladesh against the quality of lungies supplied by an Indian firm. The Textiles Committee, which are Government's agency for export inspection of cotton textiles, are investigating these allegations.

STATEMENT

Exports to Bangladesh

Commodities/Goods	Value (Rs. lakh)
1	2
1. Carry-forward adjustment from previous L.P.A.	200
2. Coal	600
3. Tobacco manufactured	520
4. Cement	300
5. Raw Cotton	750
6. Cotton yarn	200

1	2
7. Cotton Textiles	100
8. Bicycles and parts thereof	30
9. Stone Boulders, hardwood (including sal and teak), Soft-wood, Barytes (white), Lime and Limestone (other than required for manufacture of cement), Dolomite, Gypsum, unslaked lime	100
10. Books, Newspapers, Periodicals and Musical Instruments	22
11. Ayurvedic & Unani Medicines (including herbs and crude drugs)	20
12. Chemicals and pharmaceuticals	20
13. Spices	10
14. Spare parts and machinery and equipment of small value (not exceeding Rs. 50,000)	50
15. Tooth Brushes, Shaving Brushes and Tooth paste	3
16. Sports goods and requisities for games and sports	15
17. Movies	10
18. *Miscellaneous (to the extent permissible under the ITC Regulations).*	100
(i) Shil Butta	
(ii) Canes and Rattons	
(iii) Conch-shells	
(iv) Betelnuts and betel-leaves	
(v) Toys	
(vi) Fruits and vegatables including potatoes, ginger and oranges.	
(vii) Any other items to be mutually agreed upon	
	30.50

Grant of relief by L.I.C. to its Agents, Development Officers, Assistant Branch Managers and Branch Managers as a result of rise in prices

*585. SHRI SAT PAL KAPUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation of India has any proposal under consideration to give some relief to its Agents, Development Officers, Assistant Branch Managers and Branch Managers in view of the steep rise in prices of essential commodities and increasing cost of living; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b). Agents are remunerated by way of Commission as a percentage of the premium received in respect of the business completed by them. Section 40-A of the Insurance Act, 1938 lays down ceilings on the rate of commission to Agents. The Agents can earn increased commission income by completing a larger volume of business in the wake of inflation.

As far as the Development Officers, Assistant Branch Managers and Branch Managers are concerned, the Adjustment Allowance payable to them is generally reviewed whenever there is a rise of 8 points in the cost of living index.

Total Amount Recovered on account of Forefeiture of Fares of Passengers due to late arrival of flights at various airports from 1-10-73 to 31-3-74

5664. SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of passengers miss their scheduled flights on account of their late arrivals at the various airports;

(b) if so, the number thereof during the period from 1st October, 1973 to 31st March 1974; and

(c) whether the fares paid by the effected passengers are forefeited and if so, the total amount recovered by Government on this account during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) to (c). Passengers are declared "No Show" when they report for a flight later than 15 minutes before its scheduled departure or when they do not turn up for a flight at all. In such cases, the fare paid is fully forefeited. In exceptional cases, however, full or partial refunds are effected by Indian Airlines on the merits of each case. The Corporation do not maintain statistics regarding the number of passengers declared "No Show" and the amount thus forefeited or refunded.

Issue of A.U. Licence to Parle Bottling Co. Pvt. Ltd.

5665. SHRI M. C. DAGA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Actual User Licence granted to Parle Bottling Company Private Limited for import of raw materials was doubled in 1970;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether such licences are in any way tied to export earnings; and

(d) if not, the total drain of foreign exchange on this account for the last three years ending December, 1973?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). No, Sir. During 1968-69, and upto 1970-71 periods the A.U. licensing policy was on half yearly basis. Against their applications made in June, 68, and June, 69 A.U. licences for Rs. 84,125 each were issued for six monthly period only as recommended by the D.G.T.D. No application was made by the firm for the second half year during 1968-69 and 1969-70 periods. During 1970-71 the party made two applications i.e. for April—September, 70 and October, 70 March, 71 periods and two licences for Rs. 84,125 each were granted to them as recommended by the D.G.T.D. for the first half year and the second half year requirements. There was no doubling of the licences as such.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The total value of Actual Users licences issued to M/s. Parle Bottling Co., Private Ltd., during the last three years upto December, 1973 is Rs. 1,68,250.

Credit Advanced by Nationalised Banks to priority sector.

5666. SHRI MARTAND SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the credit advanced by the nationalised banks to the priority sector (backward areas) State-wise, during the last three years; and

(b) the figures of the credit advanced to foodgrain dealers during the year 1973 and also the credit advanced to small scale industries during the last three years in the State of Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) State-wise data on the number of accounts and outstanding advances of public sector banks, including nationalised banks, in respect of priority sectors as at the end of June, 1971, 1972 and 1973 are set out in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See.* No. LT-6627/74.]

(b) The outstanding advances of Scheduled Commercial Banks against foodgrains, (other than those covered by food procurement agencies) during the last three years are as under:—

	(Rs. crores)
June, 1971	86.3
June, 1972	98.0
June, 1973	42.1

These figures include advances not merely to foodgrain dealers as such but also include advances given to food processing units and factories such as rice mills, flour mills etc., cooperatives and farmers.

Separate State-wise figures of such advances have not been compiled.

The outstanding advances of scheduled commercial banks to small scale industries in Madhya Pradesh as at the end of September, 1971, September, 1972 and September, 1973 is set out below:

	September 1971	September 1972*	September 1973*
Number of Unitsl .	3371	4317	6426
Amount outstanding (Rs. Lakhs)	1289	1469	1684

ग्वालियर को पर्यटन केन्द्र के रूप में विकसित करने के लिए कार्यवाही

5667. **श्रीमती वी० आर० सिन्धिया** : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि ग्वालियर को आकर्षक पर्यटन केन्द्र के रूप में विकसित करने के लिए सरकार क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा० सरोजिनी महिषी) : साधनों के परिसीमित होने तथा अन्य प्राथमिकताओं के कारण निकट भविष्य में केन्द्रीय क्षेत्र में ग्वालियर में पर्यटन सुविधाओं की व्यवस्था करने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है।

तथापि, मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने ग्वालियर में 14 कमरे के एक पर्यटक बंगले का निर्माण किया है तथा राज्य की पांचवीं योजना में ग्वालियर के दुर्ग में दिन में ठहरने की जगह, कैफेटीरिया तथा टायलेट सुविधाओं की व्यवस्था करने के लिए 75,000 रुपये की व्यवस्था की गयी है।

दिल्ली बम्बई विमान सेवा के विमानों को ग्वालियर में रोकने की व्यवस्था करने का प्रस्ताव

3668. **श्रीमति पी० आर० सिन्धिया** : क्या **पर्यटन और नागर विमानन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार दिल्ली-बम्बई विमान सेवा के विमानों का ग्वालियर रुकना शीघ्र प्रारम्भ करने पर विचार कर रही है; और

(ख) यह व्यवस्था कब तक हो जाने की आशा है?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्रीराजबहादुर): (क) और (ख) विमान ईंधन के मूल्यों में अत्यधिक वृद्धि होने के कारण इण्डियन एयरलाइंस का ग्वालियर को अपनी दिल्ली/बम्बई विमान सेवा में सम्मिलित करने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है। तथापि, ग्वालियर-दिल्ली और भोपाल के साथ आई० सी० -459/460 (दैनिक) विमान सेवाओं द्वारा जुड़ा हुआ है।

Progress made for providing tourist facilities at Sasangir (Gujarat)

5669. SHRI VEKARIA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any progress has been made at Sasangir (Gujarat) regarding provision of tourist facilities like accommodation, transport and sale of liquor, photography equipment and natural food for lions and panthers; and

(b) if so, the broad features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Department of Tourism has taken up construction of a rest house at Sasangir at an estimated cost of Rs. 13.11 lakhs. The Department of Tourism has also provided two mini-buses at a cost of Rs. 0.80 lakh, fitted with public address system and special features for viewing and photography of Wild Life within the sanctuary. The Government of Gujarat also have a scheme of about of Rs. 4.50 lakhs for development of this sanctuary.

One Hour stir by Employees of General Insurance, Western Zone, Bombay

5670. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the General Insurance employees of Western Zone, Bombay have begun 'one hour Stir' every day from 5th March, 1974; and

(b) if so, the nature of their demands and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) General Insurance employees in Western Zone observed 'one hour token strike' on a few days in the month of March, 1974.

(b) Their demand was that the agreed conclusions between the GIC and representatives of employees should be published as a Scheme under the General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Act. The G.I.C. is in close touch with the concerned Unions with a view to resolving the dispute relating to rationalisation of terms and conditions of service and wage improvements.

Change in Selling Policy of CCI

5671. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Cotton Corporation of India has decided to make a change in its selling policy; and

(b) if so, the broad features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Export of Tobacco from Andhra Pradesh

5672. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the value of foreign exchange earned by exporting tobaco from Andhra Pradesh in 1971-72, 1972-73 and 1973-74;

(b) which are the countries to whom maximum tobacco is being exported; and

(c) whether tobacco export is done throgh private firms or by the State Government directly?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Information regarding export of tobacco is not being compiled State-wise. The value of foreign exchanged earned by exporting tobacco from the country as a whole is as follows:—

1971-72	—Rs. 42.25 crores
1972-73	—Rs. 61.07 crores
1973-74 (Provisional; upto end of Feb. '74)	—Rs. 58.12 crores

(b) The major importers of Indian Tobacco during 1973-74 have been United Kingdom, USSR, Bangladesh, Japan, Irish Republic, France, Hungary and Ivory Coast.

(c) The tobacco is exported mainly by private firms.

उत्तर प्रदेश में बरामद काला धन

5673. **श्री हुकमचन्द कछवाय** : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत दो वर्षों के दौरान उत्तर प्रदेश में कितना काला धन बरामद किया गया ;

(ख) इस संबंध में कितने व्यक्तियों के विरुद्ध कार्यवाही की गई; और

(ग) इस अवधि में कितने व्यक्तियों पर मुकदमें चलाए गये तथा कितनों को सजाएं हुई ?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री यशवन्त राव चव्हाण): (क) से (ग) सूचना एकत्रित की जा रही है और यथा संभव शीघ्र सदन-पटल पर रख दी जायगी।

बंगलादेश को निर्यात

5674. **श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय**: क्या **वाणिज्य** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1970-71, 1971-72 और 1972-73 में अलग-अलग, बंगलादेश को किन-किन वस्तुओं का निर्यात किया गया;

(ख) निर्यात की गई वस्तुओं का भारतीय मुद्रा में मूल्य कितना है;

(ग) देशी वस्तुओं के निर्यात के संबंध में सरकार की भावी योजना और नीति क्या है; और

(घ) 1974-75 के वित्तीय वर्ष में अनुमानत: कितने रुपये की वस्तुओं का निर्यात किया जायेगा :

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री ए० सी० जार्ज): (क) और (ख). बंगलादेश के साथ व्यापार केवल दिसम्बर, 1971 में ही शरू हुआ है, 1971-72 और 1972-73 के दौरान बंगलादेश को वस्तुवार निर्यातों को, उनके मूल्यों के साथ, दर्शाने वाला एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा है। [ग्रन्थालय में रखा गया। देखिये संख्या [L-T—6628/114]

(ग) और (घ). बंगलादेश के साथ व्यापार भारत-बंगलादेश व्यापार करार के अनुसार विनियमित होता है जो कि 5 जुलाई, 1973 को सम्पन्न किया गया था। व्यापार करार के अन्तर्गत, जो कि 28 सितम्बर, 1973 से लागू हुआ, दो प्रकार के व्यापार की व्यवस्था है :

(1) प्रत्येक की ओर से 30.5 करोड़ रु० तक दोनों देशों के विशेष हित की विनिर्दिष्ट वस्तुओं के संबंध में सन्तुलित व्यापार तथा भुगतान प्रबंध, और

(2) सन्तुलित व्यापार तथा भुगतान प्रबंध के बाहर व्यापार, जिसका विनियमन सामान्य आयात, निर्यात तथा विदेशी मुद्रा विनियमों के अनुसार होता है।

2. यद्यपि सन्तुलित व्यापार तथा भुगतान प्रबंध 3 वर्षों की अवधि के लिये लागू रहना है, फिर भी दोनों सरकारों ने एक समय पर एक वर्ष के लिये आयातों तथा निर्यातों हेतु व्यापार योजनाएं तैयार करने के लिये सहमत हो गई हैं। दोनों सरकारें इस बात के लिये भी सहमत हो गई हैं कि वे तथा उनके नियंत्रण अधीन संगठन यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिये भरसक प्रयत्न करेंगे कि प्रत्येक व्यापार योजना वर्ष की समाप्ति पर दोनों देशों के बीच व्यापार सन्तुलित रहे और असन्तुलन की कम से कम गुंजाइश रहे।

3. वित्तीय वर्ष 1974-75 में बंगलादेश को निर्यात किये जाने वाले भारतीय माल का कुल अनुमानित मूल्य का पहले ही अनुमान लगाना कठिन है। तथापि आशा है कि 27 सितम्बर, 1975 को समाप्त होने वाली वार्षिक अवधि के दौरान सन्तुलित व्यापार तथा भुगतान प्रबंध के अन्तर्गत बंगलादेश को निर्यात 30.5 करोड़ रु० के होंगे।

वित्त मंत्रालय में कार्य कर रहे कर्मचारियों को स्थायी बनाना

5675. **श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय**: क्या **वित्त** मंत्री वित्त मंत्रालय में कार्य कर रहे कर्मचारियों के बारे में 7 दिसम्बर, 1973 के अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 3861 के उत्तर के संबंध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 981 अस्थायी कर्मचारियों में ऐसे कर्मचारियों की संख्या क्या है जो 5 वर्ष से अधिक समय से कार्य कर रहे हैं; और

(ख) इनको स्थायी करने के संबंध में सरकार क्या कार्यवाही करने जा रही है ?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री यशवन्त राव चव्हाण): (क) और (ख). 30 नवम्बर 1973 को पूछे गये प्रश्न संख्या 2906 के उत्तर में पहले ही बताया जा चुका है कि ऐसे कर्मचारियों की संख्या 322 है। इनमें से 136 कर्मचारियों को अब तक स्थायी बनाया जा चुका है। शेष कर्मचारियों

में से जो व्यक्ति स्थायीकरण के पात्र हैं, उनको उपलब्ध स्थायी रिक्त पदों पर मुस्तकिल करने की कार्यवाही शुरू की जा चुकी है।

जापान से आयातित वस्तुयें

5676. **श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय** : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 1971-72 और 1972-73 के वित्तीय वर्षों में, अलग-अलग, जापान से किन-किन प्रमुख वस्तुओं का आयात किया गया;

(ख) आयातित वस्तुओं का भारतीय मुद्रा में मूल्य क्या है; और

(ग) 1974-75 के वित्तीय वर्ष में आयात की जाने वाली वस्तुओं का भारतीय मुद्रा में अनुमानित मूल्य क्या होगा ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री ए० सी०जार्ज) :

(क) और (ख). वित्तीय वर्ष 1971-72 तथा 1972-73 के दौरान जापान के आयातित वस्तुओं तथा भारतीय मुद्रा में उनका मूल्य दर्शाने वाला एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा है। [ग्रंथालय में रखा गया देखिए संख्या LT—6629/74]

(ग) 1974-75 के दौरान कितने आयात होंगे इसका पूर्वानुमान लगाना कठिन है लेकिन जितने पिछले दो वर्षों में हुए थे उनसे बहुत अधिक भिन्न होने की सम्भावना नहीं है।

आंध्र प्रदेश में बरामद काला धन

5677. **श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय** : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत दो वर्षों के दौरान आंध्र प्रदेश में कितना काला धन बरामद किया गया ;

(ख) इस संबंध में कितने व्यक्तियों के विरुद्ध कार्यवाही की गई ; और

(ग) इस अवधि में कितने व्यक्तियों पर मुकदमें चलाए गए तथा कितनों को सजाएं हुई ?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री यशवन्त राव चव्हाण) : (क) से (ग) सूचना एकत्रित की जा रही है और यथा संभव शीघ्र सदन-पटल पर रख दी जायगी।

Officers working in Syndicate Bank after completion of age 58 years.

5678. SHRI P. R. SHENOY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) how many officers have continued to work in Syndicate Bank after the completion of age of 58 years after its nationalisation ; and

(b) the terms of their service after attaining the age of 58 years ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) and (b). Syndicate Bank has reported that since nationalisation only one officer has been re-employed, on contract, after his retirement on attaining the age of 58, for a period of one year.

Places of Tourist attraction in Coastal Karnataka

5679. SHRI P. R. SHENOY : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are any places of tourist attraction in coastal Karnataka ; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to attract tourists to these places ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI) : (a) Karwar, Belikeri, Mangalore, Marwanthe and Malpe (Udipi) are some of the places along the coast of Karnataka visited by domestic tourists.

(b) Due to constraint on resources and other priorities, the development of tourist facilities at these places is not proposed in the Central Sector in the Fifth Five Year Plan.

मध्य प्रदेश में उद्योग पतियों पर आयकर की बकाया राशि

5680. **श्री गंगाचरण दीक्षित :** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में उद्योगपतियों पर आयकर की कितनी राशि बकाया है; और

(ख) इन उद्योगपतियों से आयकर की बकाया राशि वसूल न करने के क्या कारण हैं तथा इस बकाया राशि को कब तक वसूल कर लिया जायेगा ?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री यशवन्त राव चव्हाण) : (क) और (ख) . आयकर लगाने के प्रयोजन के लिये निर्धारितियों का वर्गीकरण उनकी आय के स्रोत व्यवसाय अथवा वृत्ति के अनुसार नहीं किया जाता है । यदि माननीय सदस्य किसी विशिष्ट निर्धारितों के बारे में सूचना चाहते हैं तो वह इकट्ठी की जायेगी और प्रस्तुत कर दी जायेगी ।

2. आयकर आयुक्त, मध्य प्रदेश के कार्यक्षेत्र के संबंध में तत्काल उपलब्ध सूचना से प्रकट होता है कि 31-12-73 को 11 निर्धारिती ऐसे थे जिनमें से प्रत्येक की तरफ शुद्ध बकाया 5 लाख रु० से अधिक थी। इन 11 मामलों में उस तारीख को बकाया शुद्ध रकम 1.11 करोड़ रु० थी ।

3. कुछ मुख्य तत्व जो करों की बकाया में घटौती/वसूली में बाधक बनते हैं, निम्नानुसार हैं :—

(i) दोहरे आयकर से राहत का फैसला होने तक के लिए रकमें रुकी पड़ी हैं ।

(ii) ऐसी कंपनियों की ओर रकमें बकाया हैं जो परिसमापनाधीन हैं ।

(iii) ऐसे व्यक्तियों की ओर रकमें बकाया हैं जो भारत छोड़ गये हैं ।

(iv) रकमों के बारे में अपीलों में विवाद उठाया गया है, हालांकि उनके बारे में स्थगन आदेश प्राप्त नहीं हुआ है और न ही किस्तें बांधी गयी हैं।

(v) परिसम्पत्तियां अभिग्रहीत हैं, लेकिन उन्हें बेचने में कठिनाइयां हैं । उदाहरणार्थ ।

(क) अ भग्रहीत सम्पत्तियों का स्वामित्व विवादग्रस्त है, जिनमें लम्बे अरसे से मुकदमेबाजी हो रही है ।

(ख) जब अभिग्रहीत अचल संपत्तियों को नीलाम किया जाता है तो या तो उनका कोई खरीदार नहीं होता अथवा बोली बहुत कम लगती है ।

(ग) प्राइवेट लिमिटेड कंपनियों के शेयरों की बिक्री कठिन होती है क्योंकि शेयर मुक्त रूप से हस्तांतरणीय नहीं होते हैं और उस दशा में तो बहुत कम खरीदार होते हैं जब शेयर-खरीदने पर खरीदार को कंपनी में बहुत कम हकदारी मिलती हो ।

4. प्रत्येक मामले के तथ्यों और परिस्थितियों पर निर्भर करते हुए, कानून में विहित सभी उपाय, जिनमें निम्नलिखित उपाय भी शामिल हैं, किये गये हैं और किये जा रहे हैं :

(1) कर की गैर अदायगी के लिए आयकर अधिनियम 1961 की धारा 221 के अंतर्गत दण्ड लगाना ।

(2) निर्धारिती को देय रकम का धारा 226(3) के अन्तर्गत अभिग्रहण।

(3) धारा 226(4) के अन्तर्गत न्यायालयों में धन का अधिग्रहण ।

(4) धारा 226(5) के अन्तर्गत चल संपत्ति का आसेध और विक्रय ।

(5) धारा 222 के अन्तर्गत वसूली प्रमाण-पत्र जारी करना ।

(6) चल/अचल संपत्ति का अभिग्रहण/विक्रय ।

(7) निर्धारिती को दीवानी जेलखाने में बंद करना ।

5. किसी विशिष्ट निर्धारिती अथवा निर्धारितियों की तरफ बकाया रकम किस तारीख तक वसूल की जा सकेगी, इस बारे में ठीक ठीक बताना संभव नहीं है ।

बुरहानपुर (मध्य प्रदेश) में खूनी भंडारा नामक स्थान का पर्यटन केन्द्र के रूप में विकास

5681. **श्री गंगा चरण दीक्षित :** क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या मध्य प्रदेश के पूर्व निमाड जिले की बुरहानपुर तहसील में स्थित भूमिगत जल स्रोत खूनी भंडारा नामक स्थान को पर्यटकों के लिये आकर्षण का केन्द्र बनाने हेतु कोई कार्यवाही की गई है और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा० सरोजिनी महिषी) : बुरहानपुर में केन्द्रीय क्षेत्र में किन्हीं पर्यटन सुविधाओं का निर्माण करने का प्रस्ताव नहीं है। तथापि, राज्य सरकार ने उक्त क्षेत्र की यात्रा करने वाले देशीय पर्यटकों को सुविधायें प्रदान करने के लिये अपनी पांचवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान बुरहानपुर में एक पर्यटक बंगले के निर्माण की व्यवस्था की है।

मध्य प्रदेश में कृषि मंत्रालय विकास बैंकों की शाखायें

5682. **श्री गंगा चरण दीक्षित :** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में कृषि विकास बैंकों की कितनी शाखायें हैं तथा कहां कहां पर; और

(ख) क्या पूर्व निमाड जिले में इस बैंक की शाखायें हैं और यदि हां, तो कहां कहां और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

वित्त मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्रीमती सुशीला रोहतगी) : (क) कृषि विकास बैंक नामक कोई बैंक देश में काम नहीं कर रहा है। यहां आशय संभवत: स्टेट बैंक आफ इण्डिया ग्रुप की कृषि विकास शाखाओं से हैं।

दिसम्बर, 1973 के अन्त में स्टेट बैंक आफ इण्डिया ग्रुप द्वारा मध्य प्रदेश में 19 कृषि विकास शाखायें खोली गईं। जहां जहां ये शाखायें खोली गयीं हैं उनका ब्यौरा संलग्न विवरण में दिया गया है।

(ख) सूचना इकट्ठी की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जायगी।

विवरण

विवरण जिसमें 31 दिसम्बर, 1973 को स्टेट बैंक आफ इण्डिया द्वारा मध्य प्रदेश में खोली गई कृषि विकास शाखाओं के ब्यौरे दिये गये हैं :

शाखा का नाम	जिला
1. छिंदवाड़ा	छिंदवाड़ा
2. छतरपुर	छतरपुर
3. बिलासपुर	बिलासपुर
4. पिपरिया	होशंगाबाद
5. भट्टापारा	रायपुर
6. राजनन्द गांव	राजनन्दगांव
7. नरसिंहपुर	नरसिंहपुर
8. शाहपुरा	जबलपुर
9. दमोह	दमोह
10. खचरोद	उज्जैन
11. सवार	इन्दौर
12. विदिशा	विदिशा
13. धांडला	झबुआ
14. रायगढ़	रायगढ़
15. माहिदपुर	उज्जैन
16. जावरा	रतलाम
17. बदनावर	धार
18. जनावद	पश्चिमी निमाड़
19. आमला	बेतुल

मध्य प्रदेश में राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों की शाखायें खोलना

5683. **श्री गंगा चरण दीक्षित :** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों ने अब तक कितनी शाखायें खोली हैं; और

(ख) क्या पांचवीं योजना में पिछड़े तथा आदिवासी क्षेत्रों में इन बैंकों की और अधिक शाखाय खोलने का कोई प्रस्ताव है ?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री यशवन्त राव चव्हाण) : (क) और (ख). मध्य प्रदेश में जनवरी, 1974 के अन्त तक सरकारी क्षेत्र के बैंकों के 781 कार्यालय थे। भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक के निदेश के अनुसार वाणिज्यिक बैंक, शाखाओं के विस्तार की तीन वर्ष की योजनायें तैयार करते हैं। इस समय ये बैंक, 1974-76 के तीन वर्षों के लिये योजना बना रहे हैं। भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक ने सूचित किया है कि मध्य प्रदेश में कार्यालय खोलने के लिये सरकारी क्षेत्र के बैंकों के पास 105 लाइसेंस/जगहें थीं। इन लाइसेंसों/जगहों में से 57 का सम्बन्ध पिछड़े आदिमजाती के इलाकों से है। भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक ने सभी वाणिज्यिक बैंकों को यह परामर्श दिया है कि वे अपनी-अपनी शाखाओं के विस्तार की तीन वर्ष की योजनाओं को तैयार करते समय पिछड़े क्षेत्रों को विशेष रूप से ध्यान में रखें।

Applicability of recommendations of Third Pay Commission to organisations not directly under Government's control

5684. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the recommendations of the Third Pay Commission are applicable to organisations which are not directly under Government's control but who draw their expenses from the Consolidated Fund of India ;

(b) if so, in what way the benefits are made available to them ; and

(c) the names of such organisations where the facilities accruing from the Commission's report have already been given effect to and those where it has not been done so far along with reasons for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) No, Sir. The recommendations of the Third Pay Commission in terms relate to Central Government servants and not to employees of autonomous organisations.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) It is presumed that the intention of the Hon'ble Member is to know if the autonomous organisations which are wholly financed by grants-in-aid from the Consolidated Fund of India, have given to their employees benefits comparable to those accruing to Central Government employees on the recommendation of the Third Pay Commission. The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Foreign Tourists who visited Rajasthan

5685. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) what is the percentage of the foreign tourist that visited Rajasthan during 1971-72 and 1973 ;

(b) the places that are usually preferred or listed by government for the visit of foreign tourists ;

(c) whether more places are proposed to be included in this list and if so, the particulars thereof ;

(d) whether the Centre gives a part of the revenue earned on this account to the Rajasthan Government and if so, the particulars thereof ; and

(e) if not, whether such a proposal is under consideration ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI) : (a) According to the Foreign Tourist Survey, 1972-73 conducted by IIPO for the Department of Tourism, the percentage of foreign tourists that visited Jaipur and Udaipur in Rajasthan was 11.3 and 3.3 respectively.

(b) and (c). The Department of Tourism does not maintain any fixed list of tourist centres. Under various Plan Schemes, facilities for tourists have been provided at Jaipur, Udaipur, Bharatpur, Mount Abu, Chittorgarh, Silisarh and Sariska. During the Fifth Plan for tourism,

it is proposed to take up schemes for provision of further facilities at Bharatpur, Deeg, Jaipur and Jaisalmer.

(d) and (e). The income earned from Tourism goes to the Government or private agency which operates the accommodation and transport facilities utilised by tourists. The Central Government as such does not earn any revenue from tourism.

Agency for Procurement and Distribution of Cashew Nuts

5686. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kerala Cashew Development Corporation has suggested the setting up of an independent agency for the procurement and distribution of the indigenously produced cashew nuts ; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines of this proposal and the reaction of the Central Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). A broad suggestion to this effect has been received recently from the Kerala State Cashew Development Corporation Ltd., Quilon. The Corporation has not spelt out the proposal in detail, and as such it is premature now for the Government to indicate its reaction to this proposal.

आवश्यक वस्तुओं का कृत्रिम अभाव पैदा करने के लिए गिरफ्तारी

5687. **श्री चन्दु लाल चन्द्राकर**: क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने वर्ष 1973 के दौरान आवश्यक वस्तुओं का कृत्रिम अभाव पैदा करने के लिये उत्तरदाई व्यक्तियों को गिरफ्तार किया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने उक्त अवधि के दौरान कितने महत्वपूर्ण मामलों का पता लगाया है तथा इसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री ए० सी० जार्ज) :(क) और (ख). जमाखोरों तथा मुनाफाखोरों तथा चोरबाजारी करने वालों के विरुद्ध कार्यवाही करने की व्यवस्था आवश्यक वस्तु अधिनियम 1955 में पहले ही विद्यमान है और इस अधिनियम के अन्तर्गत राज्य सरकारों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों के प्रशासनों को भी शक्तियां प्रदत्त की गई हैं। भारतीय रक्षा नियमों के अधीन और भी शक्तियां उपलब्ध हैं। जब कृत्रिम अभाव के मामले ध्यान में लाये जाते हैं तब राज्य सरकारें/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों के प्रशासन उचित कार्यवाही करते हैं।

पेंशनरों को आवास के सम्बन्ध में तथा पेंशन की अदायगी में विलम्ब के कारण होने वाली कठिनाइयां

5688. **श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी** : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पेंशनरों को आवास के सम्बन्ध में तथा पेंशन की अदायगी में विलम्ब के कारण होने वाली कठिनाइयों पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है तथा इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कार्यवाही की गई है;

(ख) पेंशन अधिनियम, 1871 के बारे में विधि आयोग की मुख्य सिफारिशें क्या हैं; और

(ग) उनमें से प्रत्येक पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री यशवन्त राव चव्हाण) : (क) जो आवासीय योजनायें आम जनता के अन्य सदस्यों को उपलब्ध हैं उनका लाभ पेंशनर भी उठा सकते हैं, जैसे निम्न आय और मध्यम आय आवासीय योजनायें और जीवन बीमा निगम की "अपनी मालिकी का घर बनाओ" योजना। पेंशनरों के लिये अतिरिक्त विशिष्ट आवासीय सुविधायें प्रदान करना व्यवहार्य नहीं समझा गया है। पेंशन के मामलों को निपटाने और पेंशन के भुगतान में विलम्ब को दूर करने के लिये समय-समय पर सम्बन्ध नियमों पर पुनर्विचार किया जाता है और आवश्यकता पड़ने पर उनमें उचि संशोधन किया

जाता है। 1 जून, 1972 से लागू की गई, केन्द्रीय सिविल सेवायें (पेंशन) नियमावली, 1972, इस विषय पर स्वत: पूर्ण नियम-संकलन है, और वह उपर्युक्त दिशा में एक अतिरिक्त कदम है।

(ख) और (ग) : विधि आयोग ने अपनी 53वीं रिपोर्ट में पेंशन अधिनियम, 1871 की धारा 4 में संशोधन करने की सिफारिश की है, जिससे केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा सिविल कर्मचारियों को दी जाने वाली पेंशन से संबंधित मामलों पर सिविल न्यायालयों द्वारा विचार किये जाने सम्बन्धी प्रतिबन्ध हट जाय। सिफारिश विचाराधीन है।

Allotment of funds/material to Gujarat for Building and allied reconstruction

5689. SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have allotted any funds and/or materials of Gujarat for building and allied reconstruction work in that State after the unprecedented floods which swept over many parts of Gujarat in August and September, 1973 ; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) and (b). On the basis of assessment made by the Central team, a ceiling of Rs. 16.06 crores was adopted for flood relief expenditure for purposes of Central assistance. In addition, 10,000 metric tonnes of GC. 1 sheets and 20,000 metric tonnes of cement were also allotted to the State Government consequent of the floods of 1973-74.

Foreign companies found changing hands

5690. SHRI B. S. BHAURA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of foreign firms which changed hands during 1971-72, 1972-73 and 1973-74 upto March, 1974 ; and

(b) the total assets of each of these firms during that period ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) and (b). A statement giving the information for the years 1971 and 1972 is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-6630/74]. Information for the year 1973 and upto March 1974 is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Request from Karnataka for exemption of industries from credit restrictions

5691. SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Karnataka Government have urged the Central to exempt some industries from the credit restrictions as otherwise it would aggravate the unemployment problem ;

(b) whether the State has also requested the Central Government to review the position and see that the industrial sector are not discriminated in favour of agriculture for giving exemption from the credit limits ; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Central Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) to (c). Presumably the Hon'ble Member is referring to a communication addressed to the Finance Minister in December 1973 by the Karnataka Small Scale Industries Association wherein it has been requested that small-scale industries in Karnataka may be exempted from the provision of increased margins and restriction on limits imposed by the banks.

The Reserve Bank of India has advised the commercial banks that in the implementation of the credit policy banks should take due care to ensure that the credit requirements of the priority sectors, including small-scale industries, are adequately met and the tempo built up in the past is sustained. In terms of the Reserve Bank's directive dated 24th December, 1973 to the scheduled commercial banks, small scale industrial units covered under

the Credit Guarantee Scheme for small-scale industries administered by the Reserve Bank of India have been exempted from the operation of the increased margins prescribed earlier during the busy seasons by the Reserve Bank of India. Thus the small-scale industrial units in Karnataka as well as in other areas are not likely to be affected by the credit restrictions.

Role of private agents of Foreign companies

5692. SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation has ordered a review of the role of the private agents of foreign companies ;

(b) whether Government have realised that the role of private agents of foreign companies has not been satisfactory ; and

(c) if so, the broad features regarding the present policy of Government in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) The STC has reviewed the role of the private agents of foreign suppliers and has decided that an endeavour should be made to enter into long term contracts for certain bulk commodities directly with manufacturers/dependable foreign suppliers.

(b) and (c). The matter falls within the commercial judgement of the undertaking.

Joining of private sector firms by former Auditor Generals and other direct tax officials

5693. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names, addresses and particulars of former Auditor Generals and other direct tax officials who have joined private sector firms, after retirement, either as Chairman of the Boards of Directors or as Directors or as high executives during the last three years ;

(b) the names of the private sector firms where they are employed ; and

(c) whether Government are considering to debar those retired Central Government Officers from joining private sector firms after retirement ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) and (b). The required information has to be collected. Efforts are being made to collect the same and a statement will be laid on the Table of the House in due course. According to readily available information, however the following two officers of the Income Tax Department were permitted during the last three years to take up commercial employment within two years of their retirement :—

(i) Shri T. R. Viswanathan, retired Commissioner of Income Tax, was given permission to join as Head of Finance, Accounts and Law Section in Shriram Fibres Ltd., Manali.

(ii) Shri V. Muthuswamy, retired Assistant Commissioner of Income Tax, Calcutta, was given permission to join as Financial Adviser, M/s. Annamalai Bus Transport Pvt. Ltd., Pollachi, Coimbatore District.

(c) No, Sir. Government are advised that a total ban cannot be imposed on post-retirement commercial employment of Government servants as it would involve violation of the Fundamental Rights guaranteed in Article 19(1)(g) of the Constitution.

Concession to Technicians for import of Foreign Machinery

5694. SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have extended concessions such as permission to import prohibited foreign machinery given to Indian technicians who return to India after acquiring technical know-how abroad;

(b) if so, what are they ; and

(c) the number of technicians who have taken advantage of these concessions during the last three years ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). The policy for import of machinery and raw materials by Indians returning from/residing abroad is contained in paragraph 163 in Section I of the Import Trade Control Policy (Red Book Vol. I) for April, 1974—March, 1975 period, a copy of which is available in the Parliament Library.

(c) Under this Scheme, 191 import licences have been issued for import of machinery for a total value of Rs. 6.23 crores.

Udipi Hotel

5695. SHRI B. V. NAIK : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any "Udipi Hotel" in India with star billing ; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to undertake any indigenous system of classification of Indian hotels as vegetarian and non-vegetarian ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI): (a) and (b). Udipi Hotels are essentially restaurants serving vegetarian cuisine in the South Indian Style. The existing classification criteria which are applicable to residential hotels, makes no distinction between hotels serving vegetarian and Non-vegetarian food. 18 hotels serving only vegetarian cuisine are already on the list of classified and approved hotels of the Department of Tourism.

Enhancement in rates of Mica for export

5697. SHRI K. KODANDA RAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is under the consideration of Government to enhance the rates of Mica for export; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and benefit to accrue?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) The floor prices of mica for export have already been increased from 22nd February, 1974.

(b) The floor prices of Mica have been revised with a view to cover rising cost of various operations involved in mica mining and exports. This would result in better unit value realisation as well as greater investment and production in mica industry.

Proposal to develop Saputara Hills as a Hill Resort in Gujarat during Fifth Plan

5698. SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to help develop further and speedily the Saputara hills in Gujarat as a hill resort during the Five Year Fifth Plan; and

(b) if so, the concrete measures proposed to be taken or are being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI): (a). No such proposal is under the consideration of the Department of Tourism. The area is being developed by the State Government.

(b). Do not arise.

Forward Trading Centres in India

5699. SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the associations recognised as forward trading centres in India; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to ban in the near future forward market trade particularly in agricultural commodities?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) There are 35 associations recognised as forward trading centres in India under the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952. 15 of them are permitted to regulate forward trading in 5 agricultural commodities mentioned in the attached statement.

(b) Banning forward trading in various commodities calls for a commodity by commodity approach by the Government. In public interest, advance intimation of decisions to ban such trading in any commodity including agricultural commodities, is not given.

STATEMENT

List of Associations Recognised under Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952

S. No.	Recognised Association	Commodities
1.	The East India Cotton Association Ltd., Cotton Exchange, Marwari Bazar, *Bombay*-2. (Maharashtra)	Cotton
2.	The Ahmedabad Cotton Merchants' Association, Manek Chowk, Ahmedabad-1 (Gujarat)	Cotton
3.	Central Gujarat Cotton Dealers, Association, Nava Dahera, *Broach* (Gujarat)	Cotton
4.	Southern Gujarat Cotton Dealers' Association, Resham Bhavan, *Surat*. (Gujarat)	Cotton
5.	The Northern India Cotton Association Limited Post Box No. 79, *Bhatinda*. (Punjab)	Cotton
6.	The Central India Cotton Association Limited, Chhota Sarafa, *Ujjain* (M.P.)	Cotton
7.	The Surendranagar Cotton Oil and Oilseeds Association Limited, Mahatma Gandhi Road, *Surendranagar* (Gujarat)	Cotton
8.	The East India Jute and Hessian Exchange Limited, 43, Netaji Subhas Road, *Calcutta*-1. (West Bengal)	Raw Jute (Sacking)
9.	The Bombay Oilseeds and Oils Exchange Limited, Jenabai Building, Masjid Bunder Road, *Bombay*-3. (Maharashtra)	Castorseed/Linseed.
10.	The Ahmedabad Seeds Merchants' Association Limited, Near Central Bank, Gandhi Road, *Ahmedabad*-1. (Gujarat).	Castorseed.
11.	The Kanpur Commodity Exchange Ltd., 51/56, Collectorganj, *Kanpur* (U.P.)	Linseed.
12.	The Central India Commercial Exchange Limited, More Bazar, Lashkar, *Gwalior* (M.P.)	Linseed.
13.	India Pepper and Spices Trade Association, KI/118, New Town, *Cochin*-2. (Kerala)	Pepper.
14.	The Pepper and Ginger Merchants' Association Limited, 332-34, Narsi Natha Street, *Bombay*-9. (Maharasthra)	Pepper.
15.	The Spices and Oilseeds Exchange Ltd., Post Bag No. 105, Wakhar Bhag, *Sangli* (Maharashtra).	Turmeric.

Collaboration with Oman for Manufacture of Irrigation Pumps

5700. SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a factory to manufacture irrigation pumps is proposed to be set up in Oman with Indo-Oman collaboration; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the proposal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) At present there is no proposal to set up a factory in Oman for the manufacture of irrigation pumps, under Indo-Oman collaboration.

(b) Does not arise.

Submission of memorandum to P.M. by All India General Insurance Employees.

5701. SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether representation of All India General Insurance Employees submitted a memorandum to Prime Minister for intervention in their dispute; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) The G.I.C. is in close touch with the concerned Union with a view to resolving the dispute relating to rationalization of terms and condition of service and wage improvement.

Export of Cement to Iran through S.T.C.

5702. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state whether the State Trading Corporation has entered into commitments for exporting three lakh tonnes of cement to Iran?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): Export of cement is under negotiation by the STC with the Iranian buyers.

Raids by C.B.I. on the houses of officials of R.B.I., Bombay

5703. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN : SHRI P. M. MEHTA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether C.B.I. recently searched the Exchange control department of Reserve Bank of India and later raided the houses of some officials recently based on a complaint by an exporter;

(b) whether permission of the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India had been taken;

(c) if so, the broad features thereof?

(d) whether Reserve Bank of India officials had objected to C.B.I. searches;

(e) if so, reasons thereof; and

(f) deceision of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: (a) to (f). The Reserve Bank of India has reported that, in the course of their work the Officers of its Exchange Control Department, came across certain suspicious features in a case relating to exports to Afghanistan. After due investigation, in cooperation with the Directorate of Enforcement, the Reserve Bank of India made a formal complaint to the Directorate of Enforcement in October, 1973 and, at the instance of the Directorate of Enforcement, made a complaint to the Central Bureau of Investigation in January, 1974. The Central Bureau of Investigation during the course of its investigations, felt the need to search the offices and residences of four officers of the Reserve Bank of India, Bombay. This was done after obtaining search warrants from the

Additional Chief Presidency Magistrate, Bombay and after taking into confidence the management of the Reserve Bank of India.

The Reserve Bank of India has, in this connection, intimated that some officers of the Bank have complained to the Bank about these searches and that the Governor, Reserve Bank of India is fully seized of the matter.

The investigations by the Central Bureau of Investigation have not yet concluded.

Bureau of Public Enterprises

5704. SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bureau of Public Enterprises has been restructured recently; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b). Proposals to restructure the Bureau of Public Enterprises are under consideration of Government.

Sale of smuggled goods in Bombay

5705. SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA:
SHRI RAM PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a foreign goods market has sprung up in Bombay where only smuggled foreign goods are sold openly; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not taking action against the culprists?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) The Government are aware of the sale of smuggled goods such as textiles and watches by hawkers and shops in certain markets in Bombay.

(b) With a view to check such sales, the Customs authorities have been organising several raids not only on hawkers, shops and stalls but also on the storage godowns and Transport Depots, which feed these. These measures are being intensified.

Development of Co-operative Sector to benefit the consumers

5706. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any plan to develip the co-operative sector co-ordinating the activities of the farmer, the processor, the spinner, the weaver, the printer and the seller with the objective of prvoiding the consumer the highest quality at the lowest possible price: and

(b) if so, the highlight of the scheme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Employees working in Income Tax Department, Delhi

5707. SHRI JHARKHANDE RAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the sanctioned and working strength of the Non-Gazetted staff of the Income-tax Department, Delhi in each cadre/grade as on the 31st March, 1973 and as on the 31st December, 1973;

(b) the number of employees who have completed 3 years of service in the present grade but have not been declared permanent; and

(c) the number of permanent post lying vacant in each cadre as on the 31st December,1973 and reasons of non-filling them up?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-6631|74).

Rates of Replanting subsidy for Rubber Plantation

5708. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN:

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the rates of replanting subsidy for rubber plantation in India and how do they compare to those in Malaysia and Sri Lanka;

(b) whether the Rubber Board has recommended enhancement of the present rates of replanting subsidy; and

(c) if so, whether Government have taken any decision in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) The rate of replanting subsidy for rubber for both estates and holdings in India is Rs. 2,471|- per hectare. As compared to this, the rates of replanting subsidy in Malaysia and Sri Lanka are as follows:—

Malaysia :

(Since 1962)	Size of Holding	Replanting subsidy rate per hectare
		(in Rupees)
	(i) Upto 5 acres	6,798
	(ii) Above 5 acres and upto 100 acres.	6,373
	(iii) Estates above 100 acres	3,399
Sri Lanka.		
(Since 1966)	(i) Upto 100 acres	4,483
	(ii) Estates above 100 acres	4,184

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A study of the cost of replanting rubber is being undertaken to consider the proposal.

Collection of Development Cess on Plantation Crops

5709. SHRIMATI BHARGVI THANKAPPAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are collecting development cess on plantations crops;

(b) if so, the amount collected from tea, coffee, rubber and cardamom, separately during the last three years and the amount spent for the development of these crops out of the cess collected; and

(c) whether this accumulated amount of cess is with Government and if so, the amount so accumulated against each group?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Area of Uneconomic and Low Yielding Rubber Plantations

5710. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the area of uneconomic and low yielding rubber plantations in the country;

(b) how much of this is in the small holdings sector; and

(c) the steps taken by Government and the Rubber Board to get these uneconomic and low yielding areas replanted in the high yielding verieties of rubber?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) 70,000 hectares.

(b) 55,000 hectares.

(c) A scheme for grant of subsidy for replanting rubber in low yielding and uneconomic areas in operation since 1957 is being made more broad based so as to include all low-yielding uneconomic areas planted upto 1962 and registered with Rubber Board. Annual target for replanting during 5th Plan has been fixed at 5000 hectares. Enhancement of rate of subsidy would be considered on the basis of a cost study which is being undertaken.

वर्ष 1972 तथा 1973 के दौरान राज्य व्यापार निगम के माध्यम से आयात

5711. **श्री मूल चन्द डागा**: क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) वर्ष 1972 तथा 1973 के दौरान भारत ने राज्य व्यापार निगम के माध्यम से कितने मूल्य की किन-किन वस्तुओं का आयात किया; और

(ख) सरकार उक्त वस्तुओं में से प्रत्येक वस्तु का आयात कब तक बन्द कर देने की स्थिति में हो जायेगी?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री ए० सी० जार्ज): (क) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा है। [ग्रंथालय में रखा गया। देखिये संख्या L T-6632/74]

(ख) आयात नीति का हर साल पुनर्विलोकन किया जाता है और जो मदें स्वदेशी उत्पादन से उपलब्ध होती हैं, उन्हें आयात सूची से निकाल दिया जाता है।

विदेशी कम्पनियों द्वारा कर अपवंचन

5712. **श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी**:
डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय:

क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) गत तीन वर्षों में प्रत्येक वर्ष किन-किन औद्योगिक और व्यावसायिक विदेशी कम्पनियों, उनकी शाखाओं तथा सहायक संस्थानों पर कर अपवंचन एवं अन्य प्रकार के कदाचारों के आरोप लगाये गये हैं; और

(ख) इस सम्बन्ध में मुख्य बातें क्या हैं और प्रत्येक मामले में क्या कार्यवाही की गई है?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री यशवन्त राव चव्हाण): (क) और (ख) कम्पनी कार्य विभाग द्वारा संकलित सूचनानुसार भारत में विदेशी कंपनियों की (31-2-72 की स्थिति के अनुसार) 533 शाखायें हैं और (31-3-71 की स्थिति के अनुसार) इन कंपनियों की 217 उपसंगी कंपनियां हैं। ये सारे देश में फैली हुई हैं और भिन्न भिन्न आयकर अधिकारियों द्वारा उनका कर-निर्धारण किया जाता है। जिस प्रकार की सूचना मांगी गई है उसे एकत्र करने में काफी समय और श्रम लगेगा। इसलिये उचित समय में उक्त सूचना को संकलित करना बड़ा कठिन है। तथापि, यदि माननीय सदस्य किसी विशेष निर्धारित कम्पनी के बारे में सूचना चाहते हैं तो वह प्राप्त करके प्रस्तुत की जा सकती है।

Limited Payment Agreement between India and Bangladesh

5713. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the main features of the limited payment agreements between India and Bangladesh signed in March, 1972;

(b) the outcome of the agreements in physical terms; and

(c) what specific measures have been or being taken by Government to strengthen and develop trade relationships with Bangladesh?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) The Indo-Bangladesh Trade Agreement, which was concluded on 28th March, 1972, provided for (i) Border trade or Frontier traffic to facilitate exchange of articles of daily use to meet

the requirements of people living in rural areas on either side of the land customs frontiers;

(ii) Limited Payments Arrangement for balanced trade in commodities of special interest to the extent of Rs. 25 crores each way; and

(iii) Trade outside the Limited Payments Arrangement in terms of the normal import and export policies, and to be paid for in convertible currency.

2. It was provided in the Trade Agreement that the provision for border trade or frontier traffic would be reviewed after a period of six months with a view to deciding whether it should be extended or amended in any way. During the mid-term review, India deferred to the wishes of Bangladesh to suspend the arrangement until control of the border could be firmly established, and administration geared to enforce meaningful checks along the entire length of the Indo-Bangladesh border.

(b) The total value of Letters of Credit opened for exports to and imports from Bangladesh under the Limited Payments Arrangement was of the order of Rs. 20.61 crores and Rs. 19.39 crores respectively.

(c) As a result of discussions held in Dacca in July, 1973, a new Trade Agreement with Bangladesh was concluded on 5th July, 1973. This Agreement, which came into force from 28th September, 1973, also provides for two tiers of trade—

(i) Balanced Trade and Payments Arrangement in specified commodities of special interest to the two countries, to the extent of Rs. 30.5 crores each way; and

(ii) trade outside the Blanced Trade and Payments Arrangement, which is regulated in accordance with the normal import, export and foreign exchange regulations.

Although the Balanced Trade & Payments Arrangement is to remain inforce for a period of 3 years, the two Governments have agreed to draw up Trade Plans for imports and exports for one year at a time. The two Governments have also agreed that every possible effort shall be made by them, and the organisations under their control, to ensure that trade between the two countries balanced itself at the end of each Trade Plan year and scope for imbalance reduced to the minimum.

Loan advanced by I.D.B.I. and I.F.C. to Shri Digvijay Cement Company Ltd. and Jaysree Chemicals Ltd.

5714. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:
SHRI RAM PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) total amount of loan advanced by the Industrial Development Bank of India and Industrial Finance Corporation to Shri Digvijay Cement Company Ltd. and Jaysree Chemicals Ltd., both belonging to Bangur group as at the end of March, 1973;

(b) amount of loan repaid and amount outstanding against each of these companies as at the end of March, 1973;

(c) whether the above two companies have been charged with mis-use of I.D.B.I. and I.F.C. financial assistance;

(d) if so, the nature of charges against each; and

(e) what action, if any, has been taken against these companies?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b). The required information is given in the attached Statement.

(c) No, Sir. It has been reported by the Industrial Development Bank of India and the Industrial Finance Corporation of India that the financial assistance sanctioned by them to Shri Digvijay Cement Co. Ltd. and Jayshree Chemicals Ltd. has not been misused by these two concerns.

(d) and (e). Do not arise.

Statement

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Institution	Assiatance Sanctioned	Assistance Disbursed/ devolved	Amount Repaid	Amount Outstanding from the concern
1. SHREE DIGVIJAY CEMENT COMPANY LIMITED				
Industrial Development Bank of India.				
Underwriting of Debentures.	50.00	49.82	49.82 (Sold to Unit Trust of India in 1969)	—
Loan. . . .	40.00	40.00	8.00	32.00
Industrial Finance Corporation of India.				
Underwriting of Debentures.	30.00	29.89	28.40*	1.49
Rupees Loan. . . .	50.00	50.00	50.00	—
Foreign currency Loan In US ($)	42.83	42.83	21.27	21.56
	212.83	212.54	157.49	55.05
2. JAYSHREE CHEMICALS LIMITED				
Industrial Development Bank of India.				
Underwriting of Debentures.	10.00	9.98	—	9.98
Industrial Finance Corporation of India				
Underwriting of Debentures .	10.00	9.98	—	9.98
Foreign currency Loan in US. ($) . . .	14.29	14.29	10.26	4.03
	34.29	34.25	10.26	23.99

* Debentures to the extent of Rs. 25 lakhs were sold off, and remaining debentures of Rs. 3.40 lakhs had been redeemed.

Suspension and Dismissal of Employees of L.I.C. during 1973

5715. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Life Insurance Corporation employees suspended or dismissed druing 1973, zone-wise; and

(b) the specific charges against each suspended or dismissed employees?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHVANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b). The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Proposal to handle Tourist Traffic at Airports by Central Tourism Department

5716. SHRI RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether tourist traffic at the airports is proposed to be handled by the Central Tourism Department; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI): (a) and (b). The Department of Tourism and I.T.D.C. are already maintaining tourist counters at the international airports whose functions mainly are; to welcome tourists, disseminate tourist information and help tourists in arranging hotel bookings, transport etc.

The tourist office staff at the airports, also tries to facilitate speedy completion of the formalities in respect of Health, Immigration and Customs which is the responsibility of the respective Departments|Ministries of the Government who have their own establishments at the airports.

Impact of devaluation of Franc on India's Trade

5717. SHRI RAM PRAKASH:
SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether France has devalued its Franc, if so, to what extent; and

(b) its effect on India's trade with that country?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) The E.E.C. countries including France had informed the International Monetary Fund that from March 19, 1973 their currencies would be jointly floating, and that they would mantain among themselves the maximum margin of 2.25 per cent for exchange rates in transactions in the official market between their countries and those of the other countries in the Group. On January 19. 1974, France notified the Fund that for the next six months, and on a provisional basis, the exchange rates between French Franc and certain other countries for the official market will not necessarily be confined within the margins observed until then. The exchange rate between the French Franc and the pound sterling which was 10.925 French Franc to one pound Sterling on January 15, 1974 has changed to 11.185 French Franc to one pound Sterling towards the end of March, 1974. Since the exchange rate between the Indian rupee and any other currency is calculated as a cross rate through the pound Sterling, this indicated a fall in the value of the French Franc, *vis-a-vis* the Indian rupee by about 2.4 per-cent.

(b) In a regime where the major currencies of the world are floating, such small temporary changes are unlikely to produce any significant impact on India's trade with France.

Development of Coffee Plantations in Andhra Pradesh

5718. SHRI DHAMANKAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to develop coffee plantations in tribal areas of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal and Assam at a cost of Rs. 8 crores; and

(b) if so, when a final decision in this respect will be taken?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). The question of development of coffee plantations in suitable Hill/Tribal areas of the country is engaging the attention of the Government. However, it is too early to say as to when a final decision in this respect will be taken.

Decision on shifting of Safdarjang Airport

5719. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have now taken any decision to shift the Safdarjung Airport; and

(b) if so, when it would be shifted?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) Government have decided to retain Safdarjung aerodrome.

(b) Does not arise.

Decision on Supply of Aviation Fuel at Airports on Foreign Exchange

5720. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :
SHRI TARUN GOGOI :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have decided to give aviation fuel on foreign exchange only;

(b) whether any directive has been issued by this Ministry to all the airport authorities;

(c) whether the main reasons for this is to augment foreign exchange earnings in view of the fuel crisis; and

(d) whether the decision will be applicable to non-scheduled foreign flights only?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) and (d). This condition applies only to non-scheduled flights by international airlines.

(b) Non-scheduled flights are subject to prior clearance. As and when a non-scheduled flight is cleared, fuel authorisation is made, subject to charges being paid in foreign exchange.

(c) Yes, Sir. This intention is not merely to earn foreign exchange but also to discourage uplift of fuel.

Common Strategy by Producer Countries for marketing of Tea

5721. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :
SHRI TARUN GOGOI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation representing the producers in the country is scheduled to visit the East African countries with a view to evolving a common strategy for marketing tea;

(b) if so, when the team is likely to visit those countries;

(c) whether this subject was also discussed with the Sri Lanka Government recently; and

(d) if so, whether their representatives will also be visiting these countries?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). Consultative Committee of Plantation Associations have sent a proposal to the Government

for sending a delegation of Indian Tea Producers to East African countries; the proposal is under consideration of Government and no date has yet been fixed.

(c) During the visit of the Indian delegation to Sri Lanka in February, 1974, the prospects for joint marketing of packet teas containing selected teas of India and Sri Lanka were discussed.

(d) Government are not aware of any delegations from Sri Lanka scheduled to visit these countries.

Textile Pact between India and USA

5722. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indo-US talks on Textile Pact of 1970 have started;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for modifying the pact of 1970; and

(c) when a final decision in this regard is likely to be reached?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) to (c). Preliminary negotiations have already been held with the U.S.A. for modifying the present bilateral Agreement on textiles between the two sides. Further negotiations are expected to be held shortly.

Modifications to the present Agreement have become necessary mainly to bring the bilateral Agreement in conformity with the provisions of the new International Arrangement in textiles and to provide increased access for Indian cotton textiles in the U.S. Market.

Change in Attitude of EEC to Indian trade

5723. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :
SHRI NIHAR LASKAR :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new Labour Government of U.K. is considering to renegotiate terms with the E.E.C.;

(b) whether there is a change in attitude of the new Government of U.K. in regard to E.E.C.;

(c) if so, how far this has been welcomed by India; and

(d) the extent to which change of attitude of E.E.C. will be beneficial to Indian trade?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) to (d). It has been reported that the Labour Government in U.K. is seeking renegotiations of the terms of U.K.'s membership of the E.E.C. The detailed terms and conditions of these renegotiations are not yet known. It is, therefore, not possible to assess their implications for India's trade.

Utilisation of credit from World Bank

5724. SHRI R. P. ULAGANAMBI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of the credit sanctioned by the World Bank and the purpose for which it was sanctioned; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to fully utilize the credit?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) and (b). The aggregate of loans to India from World Bank since its inception is equivalent of Rs. 626.15 crores. In addition the Internatinal Development Association has provided credits to the extent of Rs. 1395 crores. The World Bank loans and IDA credits have been given for various purposes like development of Railways, Power Generation, Transmission, Agriculture, Irrigation, Water Supply, Urban Development and Industries. The loans and credits are being utilized more or less in accordance with the schedule of implementation of the projects. The amount of

World Bank loans utilized so far is Rs. 555 crores and of IDA credits is Rs. 750 crores.

Export of Beef and Live-Stock

5725. SHRI R. P. ULAGANAMBI :

SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to permit export of beef and live-stock; and

(b) if so, the particulars thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) There is no proposal under Government's consideration to permit export of beef and cattle.

(b) Does not arise.

Submission of Tariff Commission Report on fixation of prices of Staple Cloth

5726. SHRI R. P. ULAGANAMBI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tariff Commission has submitted its report on fixation of prices of staple cloth;

(b) if so, its main recommendations; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government on the recommendations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Categorisation of persons by Air India to avail of chartered flights from India on concessional basis

5727. SHRI R. P. ULAGANAMBI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India has categorised persons to avail of chartered flights from India on concessional basis;

(b) if so, the broad features about these categories; and

(c) the basis or the rationale on which this categorization has been made?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) to (c). Air-India Charters Limited came into being for operation of charters at cheap fares as one of the measures to combat malapractices indulged in by certain foreign airlines.

The following categories of persons, who were flown by other carriers indulging in malapractices, are ordinarily eligible to travel by Air India charters:

(i) European residents of Indian ethnic origin;

(ii) Emigrants to UK/USA/Canada;

(iii) Students and missionaries.

Seizure of forged currency

5728. SHRI SAT PAL KAPUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of forged currency notes seized in various States and Union Territories during the financial year 1973-74;

(b) the number of persons arrested in this connection; and

(c) the action taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) Forged currency notes of different denominations amounting to Rs. 7,40,585 were seized from various States/Union Territories during the financial year 1973-74.

(b) 197 persons were arrested.

(c) The law of the land already provides for deterrent punishment for offences relating to counterfeiting of currency and bank notes. Such offences are dealt with by the State Police Authorities who keep a constant vigilance in this regard and organise raids on information of counterfeiting being done by any person. The Central Bureau of Investigation also keeps the problem of counterfeiting of Indian currency under continuous study by keeping records of different techniques adopted and by reviewing periodically the appearance of counterfeit Indian currency. They have also created a 'cell' in their Economic Offences Wing to undertake investigations of serious offences of counterfeit currency and coordinate the investigations in the States.

Proposal to relax restrictions on entry of tourists to Andaman-Nicobar Islands

5729. SHRI D. P. JADEJA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is restriction on the entry of tourists to the Islands such as Andaman-Nicobar Islands;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to relax these restrictions; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI): (a) to (c). Indian citizens may visit the Andaman and Nicobar islands, but permits are needed for entry into certain areas in the Islands which have been declared as "Reserved Areas" under the Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation, 1956. Foreigners are not at present permitted entry to the islands. The question of opening the Northern group of Islands, viz., the North, Middle and South Andamans, to foreign tourist traffic by issue of permits on a selective basis, is under consideration.

Air taxi service in the country

5730. SHRI D. P. JADEJA:
SHRI ARVIND M. PATEL:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to start air-taxi service in the country;

(b) whether any private parties have applied for permission for starting air-taxi; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) to(c). The operation of air services (including air taxi services) by private operators on routes not served by the national carrier is regulated by Rule 134, read with Schedule XI to the Aircraft Rules, 1937. Interested parties may apply to the Director General of Civil Aviation, giving detailed information regarding routes to be followed, nationality and registration marks of aircraft owned, details of maintenance organisation evidence of sound financial position, etc. Each such request is considered by the Director General of Civil Aviation on merits.

Some private parties made enquiries in this regard and they were advised to apply to the Director General of Civil Aviation in accordance with the prescribed procedure.

Opening of branches of nationalised banks in Orissa

5731. SHRI BANAMALI BABU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of Nationalised Banks proposed to be opened during the current year in Orissa; and

(b) how many of them will be opened in Rural areas and how many in urban areas?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b). In terms of the directive of the Reserve Bank of India, the commercial banks prepare three-year rolling plans for branch expansion. The plan for the first year is a detailed one while those for the subsequent two years are generally in aggregative terms. The banks are currently engaged in formulating their branch expansion plans for the three year period 1974—76. The 14-Nationalised banks had on hand, as at the end of January 1974, 37 licences/allotments for opening new offices in Orissa State. The Reserve Bank of India has reported that 15 more licences for opening offices have been issued to these banks since then. Of these 52 licences/allotments, 34 relate to rural centres, 11 to semi-urban centres and 7 to urban centres/Port Towns.

Setting up of Tourist Hotels in Orissa during Fifth Plan

5732. SHRI BANAMALI BABU : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the target of setting up of tourist hotels in Orissa during the Fifth Five Year Plan period both in private and public sectors; and

(b) what is the target for the first year of the plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI) : (a) and (b). In the Fifth Five Year Plan, a provision of Rs. 60 lakhs has been proposed for the construction of a 3-Star 75 room hotel at Puri, by the India Tourism Development Corporation, a public sector undertaking. A provision of Rs. 15 lakhs has also been included for the expansion of India Tourism Development Corporation's Travellers' Lodge at Bhubaneshwar by 25 rooms.

A Youth hostel of the Department of Tourism, which is estimated to cost about Rs. 5.54 lakhs is under construction at Puri.

In the private sector, a 29-room Hotel project at Bhubaneshwar has been approved by the Department of Tourism from the point of view of its suitability for foreign tourists.

Trade deficit in our Imports/Exports

5733. SHRI S. A. MURUGANATHAM: SHRI D. D. DESAI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the trends in our exports and imports during the first half of the current financial year indicated a trade deficit which has been widening at an alarming rate; and

(b) if so, the broad features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). The trends in our exports and imports during the first half of the current financial year indicated a trade deficit of Rs. 36.9 crores as against the surplus balance of Rs. 65.5 crores during the corresponding period of the preceeding year, as may be seen in the table below:—

(Rs. crores)

	April-September	
	1973-74	1972-73
Exports (incl. re-exports) .	1074.8	916.3
Imports . .	1111.7	850.8
Balance of trade	—36.9	+65.5

Although exports increased by 17.3%, higher increase in imports which rose by 30.7% during the first half of 1973-74, resulted in the deficit. The principal items which accounted for the increase in imports were food-grains, machinery and equipment, fertilisers, steel, non-ferrous metals and petroleum and petroleum products.

Changdeo Sugar Mills

5734. SHRI S. A. MURUGANATHAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the present performance of Shri Changdeo Sugar Mills Ltd. Bombay whose management had been taken over by the Income-tax Department; and

(b) whether Government propose to take over the management of other concerns which default in payment of taxes?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) Prior to the take-over of the management of the business of Shri Changdeo Sugar Mills Ltd. by the Receiver appointed by the Income-tax Department, Morarka Group who had secured the management of the company in May, 1964, were dissipating the funds of the company and were diverting them to sister concerns without caring to collect even interest accuring thereon even though the company had to discharge heavy undisputed tax liabilities of over one crore of rupees. Secondly, Morarkas had alienated the goodwill of sugar-cane growers and transport operators by making irregular payments. The management was incurring heavy and avoidable expenses under various heads which were also not incidental to company's business. Accounts were not maintained properly and profit and loss account and balance-sheet were not drawn up for the last three years. Tax arrears were also mounting because of lack of effort, on the part of the management, commensurate with the task of liquidation of arrears.

The Receiver appointed by the Income-tax Department took over the management of the business of the company from 16-1-74. Since the date of his take-over, he has completely stopped diversion of funds. Company's legal advisors are actively working in consultation with the Chartered Accountants on the action to be taken for recovery of loans and funds diverted to sister concerns. The Receiver has stopped all transactions on the stock exchange indulged in by the previous management in the name of the company. He has settled all disputes between the company on the one hand and the sugar-cane growers and transport operators on the other hand and payments are now being made to them regularly with the result that they have started extending full co-operation to the company. Proper planning has been made to ensure requisite supply of fuel (furnace oil), sugar-cane, and services of transport contractors and harvesting and carting labour, etc.

The Receiver has effected economies in expenses under various heads. He has withdrawn all vexatious and fruitless litegation in various courts; reduced transport, petrol and insurance expenses by refusing to defray expenses in respect of cars not owned by the company and reduced expenditure on rent in respect of bungalow utilised by the previous management for purposes other than the company's business. He has effected recovery and adjustment of sugar-cane advances, thereby resulting in reduction of expense on sugar-cane purchases.

Backlog of accounting work for the last three years has been swiftly reduced and accounts have been brought more or less up-to-date. Audit by the Chartered Accountants for the previous years is nearing completion. Accounts are now being maintained systematically nd regularly and accounting procedures have been streamlined. Steps have been taken to exercise control over stock inventories and disposal of unserviceable spare parts.

The Receiver has also paid Rs. 5 lakhs towards Income-tax arrears.

Affairs of the company have shown marked improvement after the appointment of the Receiver which is evident from the fact that whereas other sugar factories have nearly stopped work for the season 1973-74, production is still continuing in the company's factory at Puntamba. Full benefit of all the measures taken by the Receiver will be reaped during the next crushing season.

(b) There is no such proposal at present before the Government in any other case but if the circumstances of any case warrant, necessary action to appoint a Receiver will be taken.

Announcement of a New Policy for Export of Cotton Yarn.

5735. SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are to announce a new policy for the export of cotton yarn; and

(b) if so, the particulars thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The salient features of the yarn export policy for the calendar year 1974 will be as under:

1. There will be a ceiling of 24 million kgs. of cotton yarn for the year, divided into four equal quarterly ceilings of 6 million kgs. each.

2. The quantity of yarn to be allowed for export in different count groups will be decided by the Textile Commissioner taking into account production, domestic demand and availability for export etc. These allocations may be made on a quarterly basis and announced well in time for information of concerned.

3. Quotas for export will be allotted entirely on high price realisations within each of the permissible count groups.

4. Floor prices wil be announced for each count group and these have to be atleast fifty percent higher than the average export realisation for that count group in the preceding year.

5. Such floor prices are to be announced until further orders but a review may be made before the end of each quarter so that necessary adjustments are made for the next quarter.

6. Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council's services may be utilised as hereto-fore for registration of contracts and allocation of export quotas.

7. It has also been decided that in addition to 24 million kgs. approved for 1974 permission should be given for export of yarn covered by contracts registered with Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council in 1973 in respect of which goods are ready for shipment against normal permissible terms of payment subject to a total ceiling of one million kg. of yarn.

This policy is expected to be announced to the trade very shortly.

Import of Raw Material by I.R.M.A.C. to strengthen Exports

5736. SHRI D. D. DESAI :
SHRI PURSHOTTAM KAKODKAR :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry propose through the Industrial Raw Material Assistance Centre to supply critical imported raw materials to manufacturers/exporters to strengthen their exports ;

(b) whether an export assistance scheme has been drawn up for the purpose ;

(c) if so, the broad features thereof; and

(d) if not, when the scheme is likely to be finalised ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) to (d). The I.R.M.A.C. of the S.T.C. has drawn up an Export Assistance Scheme to assist STC's Manufacturer/exporter associates by supplying imported raw materials on a priority basis. Under the scheme, the associate will be suplied imported raw materials in advance for export production against firm export contracts.

The foreign exchange spent on such goods delivered in advance will be recouped by surrender of advance REP entiltements of equivalent value earned on such exports.

Uniform National Salary Scales for similar Jobs

5737. SHRI D. D. DESAI :

SHRI SHRIKRISHAN MODI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry is examining the question of evolving uniform national salary scales for similar jobs;

(b) if so, when the final decision is likely to be taken ;

(c) whether uniform scales of pay for all public undertakings are also to be introduced ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). The Third Pay Commission have recommended that the Government should consider setting up tight and effective co-ordinating machinery charged with the responsibility of ensuring that pay scales of staff in Public Sector Undertakings should be fixed with due regard to the possible repercussions on other Public Sector Undertakings and on the pay scales of the Government employees. These recommendations are under the consideration of the Government.

Proposal of ITDC to improve facilities for Tourists

5738. SHRI D. D. DESAI :

SHRI SHRIKRISHAN MODI :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether India Tourism Development Corporation propose to improve facilities for tourists ;

(b) if so, whether Avros are to be introduced to connect important tourist Centres;

(c) what other facilities are to be provided and the provision made therefor in 1974-75 ; and

(d) how much foreign exchange is expected to be earned during the above period as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Indian Airlines operates services to many places of tourist interest. It may however become necessary in the future to operate some services outside the net work of Indian Airlines for the convenience of tourists and other passengers.

(c) and (d) A provisioin of Rs. 400 lakhs has been made for providing additional accommodation by construction of new hotels and renovations in the existing hotels, expansion of transport facilities, training of personnel etc.

Since most of these projects, to be undertaken during the year 1974-75 would commence operations only in the following

year, it is not possible to forecast the foreign exchange component of the total earnings at this stage.

Advancing of consumer loans to public by Nationalised Banks

5739. SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Nationalised banks had stopped granting of consumer loans to the public for purchase of articles for their use ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) whether Government are aware of the enormous difficulties being faced by the common people on this account and whether the nationalised banks are proposed to be directed to advance consumer loans to the public as before ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) to (c) While there is no specific directive from the Reserve Bank suggesting to the banks that they should not grant consumer loans, the general policy of the commercial banks all through has been to accord loans of this type a lower priority. In the present context when there is need for general credit restraint banks are naturally devoting greater attentioin to the credit requirements of production and priority sectors.

Fiscal Incentives to Labour Oriented Industries for Stimulating Additional Employment

5740. SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1863 on the 23rd November, 1973 regarding fiscal incentives to labour Oriented industries for stimulating additional employment and state :

(a) whether a final decision has since been taken on the schemes to provide fiscal incentives for stimulating additional employment in labour intensive industries ; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof ; and if not, the reasons for the delay ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) and (b) Some ideas were examined in depth in the Department of Economic Affairs in consultation with the other Ministries and Departments and also the Planning Commission with a view to evolving a practical scheme for the grant of a fiscal incentive for encouraging labour-oriented methods of production in industry. However, it has not been possible so far to evolve a satisfactory scheme of fiscal incentive for promoting employment oriented industries.

Fall in Tea Production

5741. SHRI E. V. VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether tea production during the current year is likely to fall as a result of shortage of inputs ; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to check the fall in production ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b) In spite of the problems created by the oil crisis and irregular wagon movements at times for coal, every effort is being made to meet the input requirements of tea industry for items like fertilisers, furnace oil, coal, pesticides/weedicides with a view to maintain the level of production of this industry.

Export Licences for Hand-made Woollen Carpets

5742. SHRI E. V. VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether exporters of hand made woollen carpets have to obtain export licences prior to executing overseas orders ;

(b) if so, since when this scheme is in vogue and the broad features of the scheme ;

(c) whether any review of the scheme has been or is proposed to be undertaken to boost exports of the hand-made woollen carpets ; and

(d) the earnings in terms of foreign exchange by the export of such carpets in the last three years ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Export of hand woven woollen carpets was brought under Export Control Order with effect from 1st July, 1965. At present export of various varieties of hand woven woollen carpets is licensed freely on out right sale basis subject to certain floor price restrictions and certificate of origin.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) During the last three years, export of carpets earned foreign exchange as follows :—

Year	Value in Rs. crores
1971-72	18.69
1972-73	21.44
1973-74 (April-Jan.)	18.32

Difficulties by Small Scale Units as a result of credit squeeze imposed by R.B.I.

5743. SHRI E. V. VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Standing Committee on credit for the small scale industries has pointed out a number of difficulties experienced by small-scale units as a result of the credit squeeze imposed by the Reserve Bank ;

(b) if so, the nature of difficulties ; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) and (b) Perhaps, the Hon'ble Member is referring to the suggestions made, at a recent meeting, by the Standing Committee on Credit Facilities, a Committee set up by the Small Scale Industries Board. It is ascertained that the Committee has, in the context of increase in prices of raw materials and labour costs, recommended some relaxations in respect of small scale industrial units from the current busy season credit restrictions.

(c) The Reserve Bank reviews its credit policy continually and introduces such exemptions as are necessary from time to time to ensure that the credit restrictions do not affect the interests of small borrowers in the priority sectors, including the small scale industrial units. Thus, all small scale industrial units with limits from a bank not exceeding Rs. 2 lakhs were exempted from the operation of the minimum lending rate of 11 per cent and the increased margins earlier prescribed. The exemptions from the increased margins were further extended on 24th December 1973 to cover all small scale industrial units covered under the credit guarantee scheme.

Any further enlargement in the concessions already extended to small scale industrial units will necessarily have to be carefully examined against the objective of ensuring that the benefit of such exemptions goes to smaller and weaker borrowers who deserve support.

Foreign exchange for small scale units

5744. SHRI E. V. VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications from small scale industries cleared by the Credit Guarantee Assurance Corporation at the beginning of this year ;

(b) the foreign exchange equivalent of the amount involved in such applications; and

(c) the reasons for non-utilisation of foreign exchange by small scale units?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) to (c). It is presumed that the reference is to the operations of C.G.A.C. which initials stand for Capital Goods Ad-Hoc Committee and not for Credit Guarantee Assurance Corporation. Since the begining of January 1974 the Capital Goods Ad Hoc Committee had cleared 231 applications involving foreign exchange component of the value of Rs. 4.38 crores in respect of small scale industrial units. The actual import of equipment by small and medium scale units depends on several factors such as ready availability/fabrication of machinery, shipping space, progress in rupee expenditure etc. The progress in rupee expenditure is reported to have been affected by the shortage of key in-puts like steel and cement.

Liberalisation of Trade Policy in view of World Trade Fair, 1974

5745. SHRI E. V. VIKHE PATIL :
SHRI B. S. BHAURA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the measures proposed to be taken to liberalise trade policy in view of the World Trade Fair to be held in New Delhi this year; and

(b) the amount of foreign exchange proposed to be allocated to the textiles and agricultural sectors for purchase of exhibits?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) :

(a) In terms of trade policy, the India International Trade Fair will have impact on :

(i) International trade ;

(ii) India's exports; and

(iii) Imports to strengthen the economy.

Within the framework of our existing policies in regard to all these three points, the India International Trade Fair will serve as one of the instruments for the implementation of the relevant policies.

(b) A Fair Quota, in terms of foreign-exchange, is being announced, on the pattern of Asia 72. The Fair Quota is available for all eligible items permissible for import into India, including textiles and agricultural sectors. The entitlement of each foreign participant will be as follows :—

(i) Rs. 2500 per sq. mt. of space booked subject to a maximum of Rs. 25,00,000 for each country participating in the Fair at national level.

(ii) Rs. 750 per sq. mt. of space booked subject to a maximum of Rs. 7,50,000 for each foreign confirm paricipating in the Fair.

Bonus declared by life insurance corporation for Policy Holders

5746. SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation of India has declared the bonus for the policy holders for the two years ending the 31st March, 1973 ;

(b) if so, the amount thereof ;

(c) whether there has not been any increase in the amount of bonus over the bonus declared last time ;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor especially when the L.I.C. has done record business during these two years ; and

(e) whether Government are aware of the dissatisfaction among policy holders on

this account and the steps Government propose to take to give more benefits to policy holders?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The rates of bonus declared for the two years ending 31-3-1973 are :

Endowment Policies : Rs. 17.60 per thousand sum assured per annum.

Whole Life Policies : Rs. 22 per thousand sum assured per annum.

These rates of bonus are the same as were declared in the provisious biennial valuation.

(d) and (e) In life insurance the rate of growth in new business is not an index of profitability. Bonus depends on the surplus disclosed by the biennial actuarial valuations and 95 per cent of such surplus is allocated to policyholders. Rising costs, as a result of inflation, have acted as a constraint on increasing the rate of bonus. The Life Insurance Corporation is, however, alive to the need for improving the profitability of the business and is taking various steps in this direction.

पत्रकारों और छोटे समाचार पत्रों को होने वाली वित्तीय कठिनाइयां

5747. **श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी** : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान हाल ही में पत्रकारों और छोटे समाचार पत्रों के होने वाली वित्तीय कठिनाइयों की ओर दिलाया गया है;

(ख) क्या उनको राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों के माध्यम से कोई सहायता करने का प्रस्ताव है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्सम्बन्धी मुख्य बात क्या है और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री यशवन्त राव चव्हाण) : (क) जी, हां।

(ख) और (ग) : यद्यपि पत्रकारों और छोटे समाचार पत्रों के लिये अलग से कोई खास योजना तैयार करने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है, फिर भी बैंक गुण-दोष के आधार पर अभी भी, अलग अलग मामलों में आवश्यक सहायता दे सकते हैं। हर आवेदन-पत्र के गुण-दोष के सम्बन्ध में उचित मूल्यांकन करने के बाद बैंक मौजूदा ऋण नियंत्रणों में उपयुक्त छूट दिये जाने के लिये भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक से सम्पर्क भी कर सकते हैं ।

ऋण नियंत्रण नीति के परिणामस्वरूप छोटे व्यापारियों की कठिनाइयों को दूर करना

5748. **श्री फूल चन्द वर्मा** :
श्रीमती भार्गवी तनकप्पन :

क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने केन्द्रीय ऋण नियंत्रण नीति के परिणामस्वरूप छोटे व्यापारियों, किसानों तथा उत्पादकों को हुई कठिनाइयों को दूर करने के लिये आश्वासन दिया था; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कार्यवाही की गई है अथवा करने का विचार है?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री यशवन्त राव चव्हाण) : (क) और (ख) : सरकार और भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक का उद्देश्य इस बात का सुनिश्चियन करना रहा है कि ऋणों पर प्रतिबन्ध लगाने की नीति का प्राथमिकता प्राप्त क्षेत्र के छोटे ऋणकर्ताओं के हितों पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव न पड़े। इस लक्ष्य की प्राप्ति के लिये भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक ने सभी अनुसूचित वाणिज्यिक बैंकों को सलाह दी है कि वे प्राथमिकता प्राप्त क्षेत्र के ऋणकर्ताओं की जिनमें छोटे व्यापारी, किसान और छोटे उत्पादक आदि शामिल हैं, ऋण आवश्यकताओं का उचित ध्यान रखें। चयनात्मक ऋण नियंत्रण को लागू करने में भी रिजर्व बैंक मार्जिन और अधिकतम सीमा के सम्बन्ध में छोटे पैमाने के औद्योगिक एककों को तरजीह दे रहा है।

Foreign Exchange earned by Textile Mills in Private and Public Sectors

5749. SHRI S. N. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the percentage of foreign exchange earnings out of the total earnings from the export of cloth manufactured from long staple cotton imported from Egypt?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): No separate record of foreign exchange earnings from export of cloth manufactured out of Egyption cotton is kept by the D.G.C.I.&S., Calcutta.

Increase in Area under Uneconomic Tea Plantations

5750. SHRI S. N. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the area under average and uneconomic Tea Plantations has been increasing during 1971-72, 1972-73 and 1973-74 ;

(b) the State-wise production of tea during these three years ; and

(c) what steps are being taken to check decline in Tea production?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Government have no information.

(b) The information is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) Except shortfall due to vagaries of nature in certain areas in a year, Tea production in India is increasing by about three per cent per annum and it is envisaged to increase further during the Fifth Five Year Plan. However, the Tea Board has been assisting the Tea Industry by providing loan and subsidy to extend the tea areas and replace and replant old tea areas with high yielding planting materials and also by supply of tea machinery and irrigation equipment on hire-purchase to modernise tea factories.

STATEMENT

Quantity of tea produced during the last three years, State-wise.

(Figures in thousand Kg.)

States	1970	1971	1972*	1973*
Tripura	2,547	2,736	2,358	N.A.
Bihar	36	42	28	N.A.
Uttar Pradesh	566	614	657	N.A.
Himachal Pradesh	975	888	1,116	N.A.
West Bengal	101,197	102,859	106,251	N.A.
Assam	212,027	224,053	240,005	N.A.
Total: North India	317,348	331,192	351,415	365,950
Tamil Nadu	55,557	55,301	52,303	N.A.
Mysore	2,848	2,817	3,085	N.A.
Kerala	42,784	43,012	43,069	N.A.
Total: South India	101,169	102,130	98,457	101,769
Total: All India	418,517	433,322	449,872	467,719

N.A.—Not available.

*—Figures are provisional.

Projects to be Financed from PL-480 funds

5751. SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) he development projects in the Fifth Five Year Plan which are to be financed from the PL-480 funds ; and

(b) what will be the quantum of assistance for each of these projects ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b). Under the terms of the Agreement on PL-480 and other Funds signed on 18th February, 1974, the U.S. Government gave a grant of Rs. 1664 crores to the Government of India. This grant is to be applied by the Government of India to projects to be chosen by the Government of India in the following sectors in the amounts indicated :

	Rs. Crores
(i) *Agriculture*, including: agricultural research and education; minor irrigation; animal husbandry and dairy; special projects and programmes of rural development and employment; soil conservation and land development. . . .	1,000
(ii) *Housing* .	180
(iii) *Family Planning*, including: services and supplies (rural family planning centres, sub-centres, family planning bureaus, intensive district programmes and provision of transport)	105
(iv) *Health:* National malaria eradication and smallpox schemes' . . .	40
(v) *Technical* Education, including: Indian Institutes of Technology, Indian Institutes of Management; regional engineering colleges	35
(vi) *Power/Central Sector*, including: regional load despatch stations and inter-state links . . .	70
(vii) *Power/State Sector*, including: 10 hydro-electric and thermal projects .	180
(viii) *Rural Electrification* .	54
Total .	1,664

The grant will be used within a period of five years from 1st April, 1974 by attribution by Government of India to development projects in various sectors included in the Plan.

Proposal to construct hotels in Maharashtra during Fifth Plan

5752. SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are running any hotels near tourist centres in Maharashtra and if so, the particulars thereof and

(b) whether Government propose to construct any such hotels in that State during the Fifth Five Year Plan and if so, where?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI): (a) India Tourism Development Corporation, a public sector undertaking, is running a 23-room hotel of the 2-Star category at Aurangabad.

(b) During the Fifth Five Year Plan, it is proposed to expand the capacity of the above Aurangabad Hotel by 60 rooms at an estimated cost of Rs. 50 lakhs.

A Youth Hostel of the Department of Tourism, which is estimated to cost Rs. 2.96 lakhs is under construction at Aurangabad.

Air India also have plans for the construction of two hotels at Bombay, one at Bombay Airport and the other at Juhu Beach. The Airport Hotel is already under construction and is expected to be commissioned with 300 rooms, by August|September this year. The construction of the hotel

at Juhu Beach, with 350 rooms in the first phase, is expected to start towards the end of the year.

Proposal to Eliminate Middlemen from Jute Trade

5753. SHRI SAKTI KUMAR SARKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to eliminate middlemen from the jute trade and if so, the steps taken in this direction; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) :(a) Yes, Sir. The Jute Corporation of India set up in April, 1971 is to gradually take over the bulk raw jute trade in the country.

(b) Does not arise.

Scarcity of Quality Tea for Exports

5754. SHRI SAKTI KUMAR SARKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether scarcity of quality tea for export has greately reduced the country's foreign exchange earnings ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Production of controlled and non-controlled cloth

5755. SHRI SAKTI KUMAR SARKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the comparative figures of production of controlled cloth and non-controlled cloth during the years 1972 and 1973 by textile mills ;

(b) the actual demand for controlled cloth in each State along with the actual supply ; and

(c) the percentage increase in price of controlled cloth particularly price of Dhotis and Sarees of coarse variety, during 1973 over those in the year 1972?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) A statement showing the figures of total production of cotton cloth and controlled cloth, separately, during the years 1972 and 1973, by the textile mills is attached.

(b) Information regarding the actual demand for controlled cloth in each State is not available. The stocks of controlled cloth reported by the mills to the Textile Commissioner for distribution vary from month to month. The eligibility for allotment of controlled cloth of each State is determined on the basis of availability of controlled cloth and population of the State. Information regarding allotment made to each State during the period October 1972 to February 1974 is attached.

(c) No increase in the prices of controlled cloth has been allowed from May, 1968 to March, 1974.

Statement

(I) Statement showing the production of cotton cloth by textiles Mills

Year	Total Production (in million metres)
1972	4246
1973	4144

(2) *Production of Controlled cloth*

Period	Production (in million square metres)
December 71/February 1972	101.00
March/May 1972	97.09
June 1972	Nil
July/December 1972	164.00
January/March 1973	64.00
April/June 1973	146.00
July/September 1973	100.04
October/December 1973	66.65

S. No.	State/Union Territory	Quantity Supplied in Standard Bales of 1500 Square Metres
1.	Andhra Pradesh	19,254.00
2.	Assam	5,682.00
3.	Bihar	20,696.25
4.	Chandigarh	87.75
5.	Delhi	30,962.50
6.	Gujarat	14,257.75
7.	Goa	293.75
8.	Himachal Pradesh	671.25
9.	Haryana	6,732.00
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	2,437.00
11.	Kerala	11,742.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	30,400.50
13.	Maharashtra	39,966.00
14.	Karnataka	12,281.25
15.	Orissa	4,669.25
16.	Pondicherry	330.00
17.	Punjab	6,666.75
18.	Rajasthan	16,318.00
19.	Tripura	443.00
20.	Tamil Nadu	13,657.50
21.	Uttar Pradesh	96,092.00
22.	West Bengal	20,114.50
23.	Nagaland	86.50
24.	Dadra-Nagarhaveli	8.00
25.	Laccadive and Minicoy	5.00
26.	Manipur	57.00
27.	Meghalaya	80.00
28.	Arunachal	65.00
29.	Mizoram	40.00
30.	Andaman and Nicobar	34.00

Export of Frog egs

5756. DR. KARNI SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the foreign exchange earned by the export of frog legs during the years 1971-72, 1972-73 and expected to be earned during 1973-74?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : The value of exports of frozen frog legs during the years 1971-72 and 1972-73 were of the order of Rs. 1.25 crores and Rs. 2.97 crores. An export of Rs. 1.89 crores has already been effected during the period April-September, 1973 and the total exports during 1973-74 are expected to be more than Rs. 4 crores.

Tax-free emoluments of staff in Indian Airlines

5757. DR. KARNI SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a considerable part of the emoluments of the pilots, air hostesses and some other staff in the Indian Airlines are tax-free;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether there is any other category of staff in Government or private sector whose emoluments are tax-free?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) to (c). No special exemption has been given to pilots, air hostesses etc. of Indian Airlines and they are subject to the income tax lawslike anyone else. However, they are in receipt of certain benefits which are not subject to deduction of income tax.

Proposal to stage trade fair at Caracas (Venezuela)

5758. SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH :
SHRI ISHAQUE SAMBHALI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to stage a trade fair at Caracas (Venezuela); and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir The proposed Exhibition set up by the Indian Council of Trade Fairs & Exhibitions started from March 26, 1974 and would continue till April 14, 1974.

A wide range of heavy and light engineering equipments, agricultural equipments, tools, household articles, textiles, handicrafts, tea, etc. is on display at the Exhibition.

The display is backed by the presence of 20 business representatives of participating firms for business negotiations.

Phased Programme to Indianise Indian Airlines Fleet

5759. SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any long term study has been undertaken by the Indian Airlines to introduce a phased programme to completly Indianise the Indian Airlines fleet; and

(b) if so, by what time this will be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) and (b). It cannot be stated precisely at this stage whether it will be possible for Indian Airlines to completely Indianise their fleet and at what stage. However, the present fleet of Indian Airlines includes the HS-748 which is indigenously manufactured.

Assistance from Aid India Consortium

5760. SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quantum of assistance to be provided by the Aid India Consortium towards India's foreign exchange requirements during the 1st year of Fifth Plan period has been finalised; and

(b) if so, broad features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Target for Export of Leather Goods

5761. SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH :
SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for 1972-73 for the export of leather and finished leather goods and the value of actual exports of these commodities during the same period; and

(b) the target fixed for these exports for 1973-74 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) The target for 1972-73 for leather and leather goods, including leather footwear was Rs. 97.50 crores. The actual exports during that year were to the tune of Rs. 187.12 crores.

(b) Rs. 180 crores.

Proposal to set up a new Products Export Promotion Organisation by STC

5762. SHRI BANAMALI BABU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Trading Corporation proposes to set up a new products export promotion organisation;

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof; and

(c) what would be the main objectives of this organisation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Shortage of security paper in the country

5763. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether security paper in the country is in short supply and that is a contributing factor to the flood of soiled currency notes in circulation; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures taken?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) There has been some short supply of paper for printing currency notes during the year 1973 due to persistent labour trouble in the Security Paper Mill, Hoshangabad. This is one of the reasons for recent increase in the circulation of soiled notes.

(b) Some bank note paper is being imported. The labour situation in Security Paper Mill has also improved considerably and there may not be any difficulty in reaching the targetted production in 1974-75. Moreover, issue of fresh notes over Reserve Bank's counter is being made consistent with the stock position, the shortfall being made up by re-cycling the notes which can withstand further handling.

Adverse Balance of Trade with Canada

5764. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether our country is having an adverse balance of trade with Canada; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures proposed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government have taken various steps for the promotion of our exports such as assistance to exporters, participation in and organisation of exhibitions and trade fairs, sponsoring of sales cum study teams/delegations, undertaking of market survey etc. The Trade Development Authority have also established merchandising contacts with a number of firms in Canada and are in touch with these firms through their New York office.

Test and Interview held in January 1974 for posts of Assistant Flight Purser

5765. SHRI AMBESH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a competitive test and interview was held in the month of January, 1974 for filling up some posts of Assistant Flight Purser;

(b) if so, what was the total number of vacancies and how many Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates qualified in the written test and how many were finally cleared in the interview;

(c) whether the quota for S.C./S.T. was complete, and if not, why not; and

(d) whether any Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe officer was associated while making selection and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a), (b) and (d). In order to prepare a waiting list of candidates for filling up future vacancies of Assistant Flight Purser, competitive tests and interviews were held by Air-India during January, 1974 in Delhi and during November 1973 to February 1974 at Bombay, Bangalore, Calcutta and Madras. 303 Scheduled Caste candidates appeared for the test out of whom 73 qualified and 4 were recommended by the Preliminary Selection

Panel for final interview. 25 Scheduled Tribes candidates appeared for the test out of whom 9 qualified and one was recommended by he Panel for final interview. Final selection of these candidates will be made by a Senior Selection Panel in due course.

The Scheduled Caste officer attached to the Recruitment and Management section of the Personnel Directorate of the Corporation could not be associated with the present selection as he was engaged on another panel.

(c) As on 1-1-1974 there were 1 Scheduled Caste and 9 Scheduled Tribe reserved vacancies carried forward from the previous years. There are 5 Scheduled Castes candidates on Air-India's waiting list who were selected under the Apprenticeship Scheme for Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates for the post of Assistant Flight Purser. One of these will be appointed against the carried-forward vacancy. Efforts will be made to fill the 9 vacancies reserved for Scheduled Tribe candidates by making appointments from such candidates. In the event of non-availability of Scheduled Tribe candidates during 1974, 3 of the vacancies running in the third recruitment year will be offered to Scheduled Caste candidates on the waiting list in accordance with the extant instructions.

Foreign Exchange Earning by Export of Commodoties from Tamil Nadu

5766. SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the value of foreign exchange earned by the Government by exporting rubber, tea, coffee and handloom goods and other products from Tamil Nadu during 1971-72, 1972-73, 1973-74; and

(b) What are the steps taken to promote the export of these items ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). Statistics of exports of these items are not maintained state-wise.

No specific steps are taken to promote exports of the products of a particular State, but the various measures taken by Government to promote exports from the country hold good for export of tea, coffee, rubber and handloom goods at the rational level are as follows:—

TEA: Tea promotion abroad is carried out both through generic as well as uninational promotion programmes which include promotion of tea of India such as Nilgiris, Darjeeling and Assam.

COFFEE: An increased quota has been earmarked from 1973-74 coffee crop for export. The Coffee Board participates in overseas exhibitions and Trade Fairs to project the image of Indian coffee abroad.

RUBBER: India has become self-sufficient in Natural Rubber. A quantity of 5000 tonnes has been earmarked for export of rubber through the State Trading Corporation.

HANDLOOM GOODS: (1) Sending out delegations and study team to foreign countries to study the market potential and consumer tastes, (2) Participation in International Fairs from time to time for giving wide publicity for Indian handloom goods, (3) Granting export assistance in the form of replenishment licences for import of dyes and chemicals to handloom exporters and (4) conducting research and experiments and rendering technical assistance required by the handloom weavers etc.

Setting up of a Rubber Plantation Corporation of Andamans

5767. SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andaman Rubber development programme has run into difficulties now;

(b) if so, the broad features thereof;

(c) whether the Rubber Board has suggested setting up of a Plantation Corporation of Andamans to continue the plantation of rubber in Andaman; and

(d) if so, Government's response thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) to (d). The Katchal Rubber Plantations in Andaman and Nicobar Islands has been hitherto run by the Department of Rehabilitation. Since employment of repatriates from Sri Lanka in these plantations has been negligible, it has been proposed to transfer this project to another Agency—a Plantation Corporation to be formed and maintained by the Ministry of Agriculture.

Concession to Exporters to Increase Exports of Cotton Textiles

5768. SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU:
SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the concessions given to the textile industry by way of export incentives; and

(b) the name of the units of textile industry benefited by the export incentive and the amount thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) The facilities available to the exporting cotton textile mills are as under :—

(i) Replenishment entitlement for import of Dyes and Chemicals, at a rate of 6 1/2 per cent of the f.o.b. value of exports, is available against exports of non-grey goods ; and

(ii) Cotton textile exporters are eligible for cash assistance given by the Indian Cotton Mills' Federation under their Export Incentive Scheme.

(b) All eligible exporters of cotton textile items from India have benefited from the admissible export incentives. The value of Replenishment Licences during 1973 would be about Rs. 4 crores against total export of mill-made cotton textiles of about Rs. 175 crores.

Export of Concentrate and Beverage Bases

5769. SHRI M. C. DAGA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the volume and value of exports during 1970, 1971 and 1972 of concentrate and beverage bases used in the preparation of aerated waters giving the company-wise break-up of such exports ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : Company-wise exports of beverage bases and concentrates during 1970, 1971 and 1972 have been as follows :—

(Qty. in tonnes)
(Vlalue in Rs. lakhs.)

	1970		1971		1972	
	Qty.	Val.	Qty.	Val.	Qty.	Val.
1. Coca-cola Export Corporation New Delhi . . .	148	88.85	284	159.17	290	134.62
2. Parle Bottling Company Bombay . . .	—	—	—	—	Not Availabel	0.19

Training in tourism, travel management and management of Hotels by the Institute of Tourism during Fifth Plan

5770. SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme to expand facilities for training in Hotel Management and Tourism and Travel Management in the Fifth Five Year Plan period mainly to cater for its own growing need of trained personnel;

(b) whether arrangements have also been made for such training in the private sectors; and

(c) if so, the broad outlines thereof and the progress made in the setting up of International Institute of Tourism at Bangalore ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI) : (a) to (c) With a view to inculcate professionalism in travel industry management and meet the requirements of trained personnel for servicing the different segments of the travel industry, it is proposed to set up an Institute of Tourism during the Fifth Plan. The proposed Institute will cover the needs of trained personnel for the entire travel industry both in public and private sectors *viz.* hotels, travel agents, airlines, transport operators, guides and Government Tourist organisations. The project proposal for the Institute has been prepared by a UN expert. Based on it and the recommendations made by a Working Group set up for the consideration of the report action is being taken for the establishment of the Institute.

The India Tourism Development Corporation and some other hotel chains in the private sector have their own in-service training programmes for training personnel employed in their hotels.

Shortage of Inputs in North-East India Tea Gardens

5771. SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that severe shortages of inputs in North-East Indian tea gardens have been causing concern to planters who apprehend a decline in tea production this season; and

(b) if so, the steps Government have taken to help the industry secure all inputs early ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). In spite of the problems created by the oil crisis and irregular wagon movements at times for coal, every effort is being made to meet the input requirements of tea industry for items like fertilisers, furnace oil, coal, pesticides/weedicides with a view to maintain the production level of this industry.

Accelerating Facilities to C.C.I. Purchase Programmes

5772. SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to accelerate the purchase programmes of Cotton Corporation of India;

(b) whether Government have decided to double the existing paid-up capital of the Corporation during the next financial year for carrying out its purchase operations more efficiently; and

(c) if so, the particulars regarding the plan to purchase bales of cotton particularly from Western and Southern cotton growing States ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE). (a) to (c). Government have advised the Cotton Corporation of India that its policy should aim at spreading its purchases equitably in the different cotton growing States timing it with the arrivals of cotton in the markets and consistently with available financial resources. The Paid-up Capital of the Corporation is proposed to be increased from Rs. 1 Crore to Rs. 2 Crores during the year 1974-75.

Granting of conveyance allowance to Central Government employees

5773. DR. H. P. SHARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether, in view of the increasing cost of conveyance with the rise in petroleum prices, Government have considered

the question of granting to Central Government employees a conveyance allowance or an increase in the City Compensatory Allowance admissible to them; and

(b) if so, the decision taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) and (b) Dearness allowance is granted to Central Government employees from time to time with reference to increase in the cost of living index, which take into account, among others, increase in transport expenses. It is, therefore, not considered necessary either to increase the City Compensatory allowance or to grant a separate conveyance allowance for this purpose.

Production and Consumption of Natural Rubber

5774. SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether production and consumption of natural rubber in India are almost evenly balanced;

(b) whether the policy of export of natural rubber, if continued, will cause unnecessary drainage of foreign exchange for import of synthetic rubber, the production of which within the country cannot be augmented due to material or other crisis;

(c) whether Government will revise the policy of export of natural rubber; and

(a) if so, the facts thereabout?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). For the present Government have permitted STC to export 5,000 tonnes only of natural rubber from the country taking into account the production and consumption of this commodity. Of this 2,600 tonnes valued at Rs. 147 lakhs have been exported till 28th March, 1974. The estimated stock of rubber (natural and synthetic) at the end of 1973-74 is sufficient for 5 months' requirements of the rubber manufacturing industry. Government is constantly watching the position and only such quantities will be allowed for export as the country can spare without starving the industry of its requirements.

Pricing Policy of Natural Rubber

5775. SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether shortfall of production of synthetic rubber and the policy of export of natural rubber have caused an upthrust of price of natural rubber;

(b) whether this upthrust is likely to cause sharp rise in prices of rubber goods including rubber-made shoes;

(c) if so, whether it will affect the low-income group of people who largely use rubber goods, particularly rubber shoes;

(d) whether Government propose to adopt a policy of balancing the upper and lower ceiling of the prices of the nautral rubber; and

(e) if so, facts about the pricing policy regarding natural rubber?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) There has been a marginal increase in the domestic price of natural rubber which cannot be wholly ascribed to the programme of export of 5,000 tonnes through STC. It is likely that with the fresh arrival of raw rubber the prices would stabilize at a lower level. but above the minimum support price.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e). Government have fixed only minimum price for various grades of

rubber and have not laid down any ceiling price. It has not been considered necessary to fix a ceiling price for this item for the present.

Rupee Payment Trade

5776. SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether rupee trade agreements with U.S.S.R. and East European counties adversely affects the potentiality of increasing foreign exchange position of India;

(b) if not, the reasons thereabout;

(c) whether such rupee trade with the above communist countries has been criticised by some economists and experts of World Bank as "Negative Aid Transfer" from those countries; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and the reasons thereabout ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) India has been able to import sizeable quantities of essential commodities like, fertilizers, non-ferrous metals, steel products, petroleum products, newsprint, industrial raw materials like, asbestos, caprolactum, etc. from rupee payment countries for which otherwise free foreign exchange have to be paid. In addition, rupee payment countries have provided us a market for diversifying our exports of traditional and non-traditional goods from where the unit value realisation has been comparable with the prices prevailing in the rest of the world.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Visit of a Trade Delegation to Paris

5777. SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD MANDAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether our trade delegation visited Paris recently; and

(b) if so, the achievements of their visit?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. However in connection with the meetings of the study group of officials held in Paris in February, 1974, a delegation—organised by the Ministry of Finance—visited France. The study group studied the scope for Indo-French economic and techincal Cooperation in the context of their development Programmes.

Unprofitable Exports

5778. SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD MANDAL :

SHRI M. SUDARSANAM :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether exports of our country last year did not cover even the raw material cost;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial measures proposed ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) The value of export of most of our commodities is much higher than their cost. There were however, a few products, for which export value is less than their cost.

(b) The reasons for *inter-alia* scale of production, non-refundable levies and taxes discriminatory freight rates and levies, and taxes in foreign countries, temporary

increase in the cost of raw materials and other such constraints.

(c) In respect of such export items which have a potential for covering the cost in due course, and for adding to the net foreign exchange earnings, of costing and f.o.b. realisation, each case is examined on merits and appropriate compensatory assistance borne on such examination is provided affording besides promotional assistance.

US assistance to Central Fuel Research Institute

5779. SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD MANDAL:

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether U.S. had offered financial aid from PL-48 funds to the Central Fuel Research Institute; and

(b) if so, the amount offered?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b). The position is being ascertained and the information will be laid down on the Table of the House.

जमशेदपुर और टाटानगर (बिहार) का दर्जा बढ़ाना

5780. **श्री रामावतार शास्त्री**: क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या बिहार में जमशेदपुर नगर ने बी०-2 श्रेणी का नगर घोषित किये जाने की शर्तें पूरी कर ली हैं;

(ख) क्या सरकार ने टाटानगर का दर्जा बढ़ाने का निश्चय कर लिया है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस बारे में क्या निर्णय किया गया है और दर्जा बढ़ाने के लिये निर्णय की घोषणा में विलम्ब के क्या कारण हैं?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री यशवन्त राव चव्हाण): (क) से (ग) तृतीय वेतन आयोग की सिफारिशों पर सरकार के निर्णय के अनुसार, जमशेदपुर के नागरिक विस्तार, जैसा उसे 1971 की जगणना में रिपोर्ट दिखाया गया है (जिसमें जमशेदपुर अधिसूचित क्षेत्र और रेलवे कालोनी आते हैं) प्रतिपूर्ति (नगर) भत्ता की मंजूरी के निमित्त वर्तमान से उच्चतर बी०-2' श्रेणी में रखे जाने योग्य है। नगर प्रतिपूर्ति और मकान किराया भत्तों के बारे में तृतीय वेतन आयोग की सिफारिशों पर सरकार द्वारा किये गये निर्णयों के कार्यान्वयन के आदेश अभी तक जारी नहीं किये गये हैं क्यों कि कुछ कर्मचारी संघों ने, प्रवर्तन की तारीख और कार्य-विधि सम्बन्धी कुछ अन्य परिवर्तन करने के सम्बन्ध में निवेदन पेश किये थे। यह मामला संयुक्त परामर्शदाता तन्त्र के अधीन नियुक्त राष्ट्रीय परिषद् में भी कर्मचारी पक्ष द्वारा उठाया गया था और कर्मचारी पक्ष की प्रार्थना पर, यह मामला राष्ट्रीय परिषद् की एक समिति को विचारार्थ भेजा गया था। समिति में हुई चर्चा को दृष्टि में रख कर विभिन्न प्रश्नों की जांच की जा रही है।

सेंट्रल एक्साइज एंड कस्टम मिनिस्टीरियल आफिसर्ज यूनियन, पटना की मांग

5781. **श्री रामावतार शास्त्री**: क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सेंट्रल एक्साइज एंड कस्टम मिनिस्टीरियल आफिसर्स यूनियन, पटना ने गत 12 फरवरी 1974 को सेंट्रल बोर्ड आफ एक्साईज एंड कस्टम्स, नई दिल्ली के चेयरमैन को एक ज्ञापन भेजा है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उन की मुख्य मांगें क्या हैं, और

(ग) उन पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री यशवन्त राव चव्हाण): (क) जी, हां।

(ख) यूनियन की मांग थी कि पटना स्थित जिस भूमि के सम्बन्ध में केन्द्रीय उत्पादन-शुल्क समाहर्ता पटना की निजी मालिकों के साथ बात-

चीत हुई थी, वह भूमि 14 मार्च, 1974 से पहले आवासीय एककों के निर्माण के लिये खरीद ली जाय, तथा सिन्हा लायब्रेरी, पटना के सामने और पटना के बाहर भूमि पर निर्माण कार्य की संतोषजनक प्रगति हो। अन्यथा, यूनियन के महा मंत्री 15 मार्च, 1974 से आमरण अनशन आरम्भ करेंगे और आवश्यकता पड़ी तो यूनियन के प्रधान, उप-प्रधान और अन्य सदस्य उनका अनुसरण करेंगे।

(ग) इस तथ्य को ध्यान में रखते हुये कि पहले, पटना में भूमि प्राप्त करने के प्रयत्न निष्फल रहे थे और अब केन्द्रीय उत्पादन-शुल्क समाहर्ता, पटना, उपयुक्त भूमि के लिये निजी मालिकों से बातचीत कर सके हैं, तथा पटना में आयकर तथा केन्द्रीय उत्पादन-शुल्क, दोनों विभागों के कर्मचारी भी अधिक संख्या में हैं, इसलिये सरकार ने अत्यन्त विशेष मामले के तौर पर प्रवर्तमान मितव्ययिता सम्बन्धी हिदायतों में ढील करते हुये पटना स्थित भूमि की खरीद और पटना में सिन्हा लायब्रेरी के सामने क्वार्टर बनाने की स्वीकृति दे दी है।

जहां तक पटना के बाहर निर्माण कार्य का सम्बन्ध है, वर्तमान वित्तीय तंगी की पृष्ठभूमि में भारत सरकार ने उन निर्माण कार्यों पर सामान्य प्रतिबन्ध लगा रखा है, जो अभी शुरु नहीं हुये है अथवा जो कुर्सी स्तर से ऊपर नहीं उठे हैं। इस कारण इन स्थानों पर निर्माण का कार्यक्रम तैयार करना संभव नहीं हो सका है।

Inter-Ministerial wrangle over Imported Bales of Russian Cotton

5782. SHRI RAMAVTAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an inter-ministerial wrangle is holding up the disposal of nearly 35,000 bales of cotton imported from U.S.S.R.; and

(b) if so, the particulars thereof?-

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Import of extra long staple cotton

5783. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of extra-long staple cotton proposed to be imported during the current financial year;

(b) the amount of surcharge realisable thereon by the Indian Cotton Textile Mills Federation, Bombay; and

(c) whether it is Government's decision to continue spending foreign exchange in order to boost production of fine and superfine fabrics in this country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) 1.5 lakh bales valued at Rs. 20 crores.

(b) The Indian Cotton Mills Federation charges a premium of Rs. 475 per bale of imported cotton to augment its Export Promotion Fund.

(c) There has been a sharp decline in import of long/Extra long staple cottons in the last two years. For various reasons, including maintenance of our Export trade to Egypt and Sudan, some cotton imports from these countries may have to be continued in the near future.

Expenditure incurred on Renovation and Modernisation of Domestic Terminal at Dum Dum Airport

5784. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the expenditure incurred to date on renovation and modernisation of the domestic terminal at Dum Dum airport;

(b) whether the said terminal is now going to be transferred to the international terminal building next door; and

(c) if so, whether the purpose of such decision is to give a "busy" look to the international terminal?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) The expenditure incurred to date on improving the domestic terminal building at Dum Dum airport amounts to Rs. 5.47 lakhs.

(b) and (c). The domestic terminal building will require, on the basis of traffic projections a good deal of expansion and improvement. On account of financial constraints, it has been decided to shift the domestic operations to the international terminal building where space is available.

Prices of various Jute Products

5785. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether current prices of various jute products have risen to an unprecedentedly high level following upon the fall in the production of synthetic products based on petrochemicals;

(b) the latest quotations for standard varieties of sacking, hessian and carpet backing; and

(c) whether the jute mills are expected to make corresponding high profits during 1974-75?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Prices of jute goods have increased in the recent past due to an upsurge in demand in the international market. The imbalance between demand and supply caused by recurrent shortages of power, strike in the industry, etc. have reinforced the tendency for prices to rise.

	FAS/100 YARDS/ BAGS
	Rs.
(i) Hessian . .	173/-
(ii) Carpet backing .	5200/- (fixed)
(iii) *Sacking*	
(1) B. Twills . .	342/-
(2) Hy. Cees Cement .	347/-

(c) The overall profitability of the industry is expected to improve though the higher prices will be substantially mopped up by the enhanced duties recently imposed by Government.

दिल्ली, बम्बई, कलकत्ता और मद्रास हवाई अड्डों पर प्रवेश टिकटों से आय

5786. **श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह** : क्या पर्यटन और [illegible] यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दिल्ली, बम्बई, कलकत्ता और मद्रास के हवाई अड्डों पर प्रवेश टिकटों से विगत एक वर्ष में कितनी आय हुई ;

(ख) क्या सरकार का रेलवे प्लेटफार्म टिकटों की बढ़ी हुई दरों को ध्यान में रखते हुए हवाई अड्डों के प्रवेश शुल्क में भी वृद्धि करने का विचार है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी मुख्य बातें क्या हैं?

पर्यटन और नगर विमानन मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर): (क) भारत अंतर्राष्ट्रीय विमानक्षेत्र प्राधिकरण द्वारा वर्ष 1972-73 एवं 1-4-73 से 31-1-74 तक की अवधि में प्रवेश टिकटों से अर्जित आय इस प्रकार थी :—

विमान क्षेत्र	आय		योग
	1972-73	1-4-73 से 31-1-74 तक	
	(लाख रुपयों में)		
बम्बई	11.76	10.49	22.2
कलकत्ता	4.97	4.30	9.2
दिल्ली	7.38	6.34	14.1
मद्रास	4.31	3.75	8.0
	28.82	24.88	53.7

(ख) जी, नहीं ; फिलहाल ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है ।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Bonus paid up by LIC to its policyholders

5787. SHRI N. K. SANGHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, since 1971, the bonus paid by Life Insurance Corporation of India to its policy-holders has remained almost static ;

(b) whether, despite a recommendation by a committee of ARC to reduce the premium rate by 25 per cent, the L.I.C. have failed to give this benefit to the policy-holders;

(c) whether the policy-holders remain the worst loser and the profits earned by the L.I.C. are being diverted to establishment expenses; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not increas ing the bonus rate and the steps Government propose to take to disburse adequate share of profits to the policy holders?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) Yes, Sir. The rates of bonus declared for the two years ending 31-3-1973 are the same as those for the preceding two years.

(b) and (c). After a detailed review the Life Insurance Corporation reduced its premium rates under certain without profit plans of assurance in 1970 and in certain other plans in 1971. The detailed review, however, indicated that in view of the uncertainty of the trend of future expenses, it was desirable to defer consideration of any revision of rates under with profit plans till such time has expenses have stabilised particularly since equity to the with profit policyholders can be ensured through the mechanism of bonus from out of 95 per cent of the surplus.

(d) The rates of bonus depend on the quantum of surplus disclosed by the periodical acturial valuations. Increase in administrative expenditure, consequent upon inflation, has acted as a constraint on increasing the rate of bonus. The Life Insurance Corporation is however, alive to the need for improving the profitability of the business and is taking various steps in this direction.

Rate of growth of Life Insurance Business

5788. SHRI N. K. SANGHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what has been the rate of growth of Life Insurance business since 1966;

(b) the ratio of Life Insurance business to the national income during these years; and

(c) whether there is a vast scope for augmenting the business of L.I.C. from its present position and if so, the steps being taken in this direction?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b). The rate of growth of new business in India for each year from 1965-66 and the ratio of business in force in India to the national income are as under:—

Year	Percentage rate of growth of new business in India	Ratio of business in force in India to national income.
1965-66	+14.38	20.77
1966-67	—3.97	19.22
1967-68	+10.22	18.03
1968-69	+10.20	19.54
1969-70	+1.42	20.22
1970-71	+26.20	21.04
1971-72	+25.85	22.01
1972-73	+26.58	22.40

(c) Yes, Sir. The LIC has set up a net work of offices from where the population in the surrounding areas could be easily served. It has also taken steps to build up a stable and efficient sales force to increase its business in the areas not being fully tapped at present.

Increase in the level of assistance given by Industrial Development Bank of India to textile machinery under rediscounting scheme

5789. SHRI V. MAYAVAN :
SHRI P. M. MEHTA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank has been approached again to increase the level of assistance given by it to textile machinery under its bill rediscounting scheme;

(b) if so, the reaction of Industrial Development Bank thereto; and

(c) whether the representatives of the concerned Ministries also met recently to discuss the need for immediate and more aid for the textile industry to increase the export of textile?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) and (b). Under the Bills Rediscounting Scheme of the Industrial Development Bank of India, the maximum limit in respect *inter alia* of a textile purchaser unit has been fixed at Rs. 50 lakhs (inclusive of interest) over a limit year (from 1st October—30th September). During the last year, the Ministry of Heavy Industry approached the Development Bank for examining the proposal to raise the limit upto Rs. 1 crore per annum to the purchasers of textile machinery under the Scheme, in respect of textile units having capacity of more than 50,000 spindles or 500 looms. The Textile Machinery Manufacturers' Association also represented to the Government on these lines. The Ministry of Heavy Industry also suggested to the Development Bank to examine the case for formulating a separate Scheme under which assistance upto Rs. 1 crore could be rendered after a technical appraisal by the Development Bank. The proposals were, however, not found feasible by the Development Bank for the following main reasons:

(i) assistance under the scheme is rendered without subjecting the relative projects to any detailed assessment as to their viability. Therefore, the quantum of assistance cannot be too large;

(ii) while units in the small and medium sector can take advantage of the Scheme for meeting their entire requirements of machinery for modernisation purposes, the large units are expected to avail of the facilities only as a supplementary means of financing their projects and not for implementing the entire projects;

(iii) for meeting the requirements beyond the limit under the Scheme other avenues of finance *viz.* term loans and underwriting assistance from the financial institutions, including the Development Bank are available to larger units;

(iv) there may be a tendency on the part of some units in the private sector to avoid availing of direct assistance from the all-India term financial institutions in view of the convertibility stipulation which is now being attached to the direct assistance; and

(v) constraints on the resources position of the Development Bank.

In January, 1974, the Textile Machinery Manufacturers' Association again represented to the Development Bank to enhance suitably the limits in favour of the discounting banks who inturn could extend facilities to them under the Scheme. The Association has been advised that.

(i) Sizeable unutilised portion of the sanctioned limits was available with the discounting banks for extending adequate credit for the sale of indigenous machinery under the Scheme; and

(ii) that the Development Bank was always prepared to consider granting additional limits to the discounting banks if needed provided the limits already sanctioned to them had been utilised to a substantial extent.

(c) No, Sir.

Soviet Interest in Indian Commodities

5790. SHRI M. S. PURTY :
SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether U.S.S.R. has shown keen interest in the trade of knitwear and other goods like tobacco, readymade garments and shoes; and

(b) if so, the particulars regarding the agreements which have been signed between the two Governments recently?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indo-Soviet Trade Protocol for 1974 signed in New Delhi on 21st January, 1974 envisages an export level of around Rs. 320 crores and includes item like knitwear, tobacco, ready-made garments, shoes, etc. to be exported to USSR in this year.

Financial Assistance to Gujarat

5792. SHRI P. M. MEHTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Gujarat is facing acute financial crisis;

(b) if so, whether this fact was brought to the notice of Central Government by the adviser to the Governor in that State;

(c) if so, what help has been given to the State Government to overcome the financial crisis; and

(d) whether the funds are not sufficient to purchase the foodgrains from other states also?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Adviser to the Governor has, from time time, approached Government of India for financial assistance. On the basis of these requests, during 1973-74, Government of India have released Rs. 56.25 crores as assistance on account of natural calamities relief expenditure. Rs. 3.50 crores was also released for Kadana project and Rs. 2.80 crores for Sabarmati Thermal project which was over and above the normal release of Central assistance for the Plan.

(d) The State Government had adequate funds for purchase of foodgrains.

Export of Groundnuts

5793. SHRI P. M. MEHTA :
SHRI NIHAR LASKAR :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India exports only two per cent of its groundnuts production;

(b) if so, what are the main reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps are being taken to improve its exports ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) India exports only about 0.5 per cent of its total groundnut production.

(b) Export is allowed only of bolder type of ground-nuts called the HPS (Hand-picked selected) groundnuts for table proposes. The export is small depending on the demand from overseas markets.

(c) Any further increase in the exports will depend on higher production and availability for export at competitive prices. Steps are being taken to increase the production of groundnuts.

Modification of Textile Agreement between India and U.S.A.

5794. SHRI P. M. MEHTA :

SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether negotiations have been started between India and United States to modify the textile agreement of 1970 ;

(b) if so, whether certain draft proposals have been received from the U.S Government ;

(c) if so, the particulars thereof ; and

(d) when the final decision to modify the textile agreement of 1970 is expected to be reached ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) to (d). Following negotiations held in December, 1973. certain broad understandings have already been reached with USA on the modifications to the present bilateral agreement on textiles. Following these understandings, the U.S. authorities have forwarded to us draft proposals for modifying the agreement. These relate to quota levels, tenure of the agreement etc. The draft proposals are being examined and further negotiations are expected to be held shortly to finalise the modifications to the Agreement.

Reorganisation of Indian Export Organisations

5795. SHRI P. M. MEHTA :

SHRI NIHAR LASKAR :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether two member panel headed by Shri B. Nehru has recommended the reorganisation of the Federation of Indian Export Organisations in stages to transform it into a national forum for supplementing the country's export efforts ;

(b) if so, how far this suggestion has been examined by Government ; and

(c) what are the other main recommendations of the panel ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) to (c). Federation of Indian Export Organisations is already an apex organisation of export promotional bodies in the country, coordinating their export efforts. The question of any further suggestion to transform FIEO into a national forum therefore does not arise.

The FIEO's management on the basis of study by a two-member panel has contemplated a reorganisational of the Federation's working. The Federation plans creation of a number of commodity and territorial panels. The commodity panels of specified commodities are to study in depth problems faced, while the territorial panels would concentrate it on requirements to step up exports to targetted areas.

Nationality-wise break-up of Foreign Tourists who visited India during 1973

5796. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR :

SHRI TRIDIB CHAUDHURI :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of foreign tourists who visited India during 1973 ;

(b) the nationality-wise break-up of such tourists; and

(c) the total foreign exchange earned during the above period as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI): (a) 409, 895.

(b) A statement showing the nationality-wise break-up of foreign tourists who visited India during 1973 is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-6633/74].

(c) The total foreign exchange earned during the year 1973 is estimated at Rs. 67.5 crores.

Help to Sick Mills by Industrial Reconstruction Corporation of India

5797. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of sick mills in the public and private sector helped by the Industrial Reconstruction Corporation during the years 1971, 1972 and 1973 Statewise; and

(b) the total amount of financial assistance given during these years, yearwise ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) The Statewise figure of sick mills which were sanctioned reconstruction assistance by the Industrial Reconstruction Corporation of India during the years 1971, 1972 and 1973 is as under :

Name of the State	April 1971 to Dec. 71	Jan. 72 to Dec. 72	Jan. 73 to to Dec. 73	Tota
Andhra Pradesh	—	1	—	1
Bihar	—	—	1	1
Delhi	—	1	—	1
Kerala	—	—	1	1
Maharashtra	—	1	—	1
Tamilnadu	—	1	—	1
West Bengal	28	27	11	66
Total	28	31	13	72

Industrial Reconstruction Corporation of India does not ordinarily give assistance for units in the public sector. However, one coal unit which was sanctioned assistance by the Corporation in 1971 has since been nationalised. Statewise figures shown above include assistance to 7 sick/closed industrial units the management of which has been taken over by the Government under Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951.

(b) The total amount of assistance sanctioned and disbursed, yearwise, by the Corporation is as given below :

(Rs. in lakhs)

	Sanctioned	Disbursed
April, 1971 to Dec., 1971	371.70*	99.17
January, 1972 to December, 1972	792.42†	333.79**
January, 1973 to December, 1973	590.74	468.53**
Total	1754.86	901.49†

*A loan of Rs. 13.94 lakhs to a unit subsequently cancelled.
†A loan of Rs. 18.00 lakhs to a unit subsequently cancelled.
**Disbursements also relate to sanctions of previous years.

Defaulters of Payments of Income Tax

5798. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of defaulters in the payment of Income-tax in the year 1973-74 in the States of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and the Union Territories of Delhi and Chandigarh ;

(b) the comparative figures, Statewise for the years 1971-72 and 1972-73 ;

(c) whether Government have taken adequate steps to provide facilities to the Income-tax payers who might have failed to file their returns by due dates ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) . (a) and (b). The requisite information as on 28-2-1974, 31-3-1973 and 31-3-1972 is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as early as possible.

(c) The Government brought into force from 1-9-1972 a scheme called "On the Spot Assessment Scheme" to help assessees whose total income did not exceed Rs. 15,000/-. Under this Scheme those assessees who not filed their returns in the past, were enabled to get themselves assessed to Income-tax by voluntarily faling the returns of Income. This scheme was in existence upto 28-2-1973 and provided for immunity from the levy of penalties.

Besides, section 27(4A) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 enables the waiver or reduction by the Commissioner of Income-tax, in his discretion, of penalties imposable on an assessee for failure to file returns of Income or wealth in due time provided the assessee furnishes such return before any notice is issued to him. The law also provides for immunity from prosecution in such cases subject to fulfilment of the prescribed conditions.

Export of Meat to other Countries

5799. SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN :

SHRI C. K. CHANDAPPAN :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a great possibility for India to export meat in the context of international shortage in meat ;

(b) whether the anti-cow slaughter laws in many States stand in the way of developing meat processing industry ;

(c) whether Government are considering to set up a huge meat processing plant in kerala where there is no anti-cow slaughter legislation to meet the export requirement of meat ; and

(d) if so, the broad features thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. The Kerala agro Industries Corporation are, however, setting up a meat processing plant for slaughter of buffaloes.

Decline in the Export of Coir Products

5800. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN :

SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the export of coir and coir products declined in quantity, during the current financial year, comparing to the corresponding period of the previous year ;

(b) if so, the extent thereof and the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the names of the importing countries to which there has been a decline in exports ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The exports of coir products recorded a decline of 3,637 tonnes during April-February 1973-74, as compared to the corresponding period of the previous year. The decline in volume of export is mainly due to less off-take of coir yarn and also because of labour strike at Cochin Port in January, 1974.

(c) The major importing countries are West Germany, Yugoslavia, Japan, Burma, Canada, France, Sweden, USSR, Rumania and USA.

Inquiry into unfair practices by foreign banks operating in India

5801. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO : SHRI S. N. MISRA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India which was asked by Government to inquire into certain unfair practices by foreign banks operating in India has since submitted its report ; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) and (b). Presumably, the Hon'ble Members have in mind certain allegations made against the National & Grindlays Bank Ltd. which are being looked into by the Reserve Bank of India. As the Material which had so far become available to the Reserve Bank is not sufficient for reaching definite conclusions about several of the allegations, the bank has been called upon by the Reserve Bank to furnish full information regarding relevant matters.

Overdrafts by States from Commercial Banks

5802. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that some State Governments have resorted to overdrafts from Commercial Banks ;

(b) if so, the names of such States ;

(c) whether the repayment of these overdrafts has been converted into loan concessions ; and

(d) the reasons therefor and total amount of overdrafts converted into loans, State-wise, during the years 1972-73 and 1973-74 ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) and (b). Normally, State Governments borrow from commercial banks only for specific schemes like food procurement operations, distribution of fertilisers and pesticides, for the requirements of departmentally run enterprises etc.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Delay in commencement of Trading Operations by T.T.C.I.

5803. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the delay in the release of funds by Government is the main reason for the delay in commencement of trading operations by T.T.C.I. ; and

(b) if not, the amount of funds sanctioned and released by Government during the last 12 months against the demands made by the Corporation ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) During 1973-74, against a demand of Rs. 8.14 lakhs made by the Corporation, a sum of Rs. 6 lakhs was released.

अफीम की खेती सम्बन्धी नियम

5804. **डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पाण्डेय** : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या अफीम के काश्तकारों को अफीम की खेती में, किसी अन्य फसल, जो अफीम से पहले तैयार हो जाती है अथवा अफीम से कई महीनों बाद तैयार होती है, (जैसे प्याज, गन्ना आदि) के बोने की अनुमति नहीं दी जाती है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री यशवन्त राव चव्हाण) : (क) पोस्त की खेती के लाइसेन्स उन काश्तकारों को दिये जाते हैं जो उन्हें मंजूर किये गये लाइसेन्सों की शर्तों के अनुसार इस व्यवस्था से सहमत होते हैं कि अफीम पोस्त के खेतों में किसी अन्य फसल को बोया अथवा उगाया नहीं जायेगा। परन्तु पोस्त की खेती करने वाले बहुत हैं काश्तकार पोस्त के खेती की मेंड़ों पर प्याज अथवा लहसून अथवा धनिया की खेती करते हैं जिसकी व्यावहारिक तौर पर अनुमति दी जाती है। परन्तु एक विशेष मामले के तौर पर, रतलाम से मंदसौर तक रेलवे लाइन के दोनों तरफ 15 मील की पट्टी पर अफीम, पोस्त तथा गन्ने की मिश्रित खेती की अनुमति दी जाती है।

(ख) अन्य फसलों के साथ अफीम पोस्त की मिश्रित खेती करने की अनुमति आम तौर पर इसलिए नहीं दी जाती कि यह पाया गया है कि कुछ फसलों के कारण पोस्त की फसल को नुकसान पहुंचता है जिसके परिणामस्वरूप अफीम की पैदावार अपेक्षाकृत कम होती है। ऐसी व्यवस्था के कारण अन्य फसलों की आड़ में अफीम की अवैध खेती भी हो सकती है।

विदेश स्थित संयुक्त उपक्रमों में पूंजी लगाना

5806. **डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय :**
श्री भान सिंह भौरा :

क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

क) किन-किन देशों में तथा किन-किन संयुक्त उद्योगों इस समय भारत के उद्योगपतियों अथवा भारत सरकार ने पूंजी लगाई है; और

(ख) उक्त प्रकार के प्रत्येक उद्योग में लगाई गई पूंजी का ब्योरा क्या है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री ए० सी० जार्ज) : (क) और (ख). एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा है। (ग्रंथालय म रखा गया। देखिये संख्या एल० टी० 6634/74)

भारत सरकार विदेशों में हमारे औद्योगिक संयुक्त उद्योगों में से किसी के भी पूंजी का निवेश नहीं किया गया है ।

Representation from Indian Airlines for excise and tax concessions in aviation turbine fuel

5807. SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a representation has been made by the Indian Airlines for some excise and tax concession on aviation turbine fuel ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is being examined.

Opening of branches of Nationalised Banks in Bihar

5808. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of places where branches of banks are to be opened in Bihar, District-wise, during 1974-75 ; and

(b) the total population covered by per bank branch in each State of the country and in each district of Bihar and what steps are being taken to bring up the most backward areas to the average all-India level ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) In pursuance of the directive of the Reserve Bank of India commercial banks draw up three year rolling plans for branch expansion. Banks are currently engaged in formulating the plan for the three years 1974—76. The Reserve Bank of India has, reported that as at the end of January, 1974 commercial banks had on hand 146 licences/allotments for opening offices in Bihar. The names of the centres to which these licences/allotments relate are set out in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-6635/74].

(b) Regional imbalances in matters of banking facilities are distortions inherited from the past. During the last four and half years public sector banks have been devoting greater attention to the need to open more offices in hitherto underbanked areas, including Bihar State. The Implementation of the Lead Bank Scheme, Special Conferences convened by the Reserve Bank of India for allotment of unbanked potential growth centres amongst commercial banks for opening bank offices, adoption of planned approach to the task of branch expansion etc., have helped in achieving significant progress in enlarging the branch net-work in underbanked States. As a result, the number of offices in Bihar increased from 274 as on July 19, 1969 to 626 as at the end of 1973—an increase of 128 per cent compared to an increase of a little below 100 per cent from 8321 to 16503 for the country as a whole. The details of the population coverage per bank office in the different States and union territories as well as in the different districts of Bihar State are set out in the statements laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-6635/74]. The Reserve Bank of India has advised the banks to keep in view, while formulating the three year branch expansion plans, the need for opening more offices in underbanked States, especially in districts which have very high population per bank office.

Guidance cell for exports

5809. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any cell in his Ministry which can guide the small producers of transistors for export of the same to other countries ; and

(b) if so, the particulars thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Payment of total arrears accruable to Government Employees

5810. SHRI R. S. PANDEY :

SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the payment of total arrears accruable to Government employees under Third Pay Commission's recommendations has been deferred and in lieu thereof only an *ad-hoc* payment has been made ; and

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) and (b). The payment of arrears of pay and allowances admissible in terms of Government's decisions on the Third Pay Commission's recommendations has not been deferred. As, however, the processes of exercising the option under Revised Pay Rules, fixation of pay in the revised scales and calculation and payment of arrears may, in some cases, take time, it was decided, with a view to giving immediate relief to such employees, to make an 'on account' payment to be adjusted against their final entitlement.

Development of Islands as Tourist Centres during Fifth Plan

5811. SHRI ARVIND M. PATEL : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any provision for the development of Islands as tourist centres during the Fifth Five Year Plan ;

(b) if so, which are the Islands selected for the purpose ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI) : (a) to (c). No funds have been specifically earmarked in the Central Tourism Department's Fifth Five Year Plan for the development of Andaman-Nicobar Islands. A provision of Rs. 9 lakhs however, has been made in the 5th Five Year Plan of the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands for the development of tourist facilities, *viz.*, (i) Establishment of a Directorate of Tourism and Publicity, (ii) Construction of a Tourist Home, (iii) Development of Picnic Spots, and (iv) Improvement of Tourist Transport. Further development can be undertaken if it is decided to permit foreign tourists to visit the islands.

Proposal for Desert sanctuary, Marine Sanctuary and Mountain Sanctuary

5812. SHRI ARVIND M. PATEL :
SHRI VEKARIA :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal with Government to start a Desert Sanctuary, Marine Sanctuary and a Mountain Sanctuary in the country ; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI) : (a) and (b). Under the Wild Life Tourism programme in the Fifth Five Year Plan, the possibility of setting up a Desert Park, a Marine Park and a Mountain Park will be examined from the point of view of technical feasibility, subject to availability of funds.

Allotment of Yarn to Hosiery Industry in West Bengal

5813. SHRI R. N. BARMAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of yarn allocated by Government to the Mills for use in hosiery industry in West Bengal ; and

(b) the total number of hosiery mills in West Bengal and number of persons employed in each hosiery mill there ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Cotton yarn is not subject to distribution control now. The question of Government allocating such yarn to hosiery industry in West Bengal does not, therefore, arise. Even previously, hosiery cones were allocated to the Federation of Hosiery Manufacturers' Association and distribution of these cones among the hosiery units was left to the Federation.

(b) The hosiery industry being a highly decentralised industry, the information is not available.

Meeting of airlines' representatives at Montreux (Switzerland) on 19-3-1974

5814. SHRI R. N. BARMAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a meeting of World Airlines' Representatives was scheduled to be held on 19th March, 1974 at Montreux (Switzerland) ;

(b) whether India was also invited to the meeting ;

(c) if so, the subjects discussed there; and

(d) the names of the countries which participated in it ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) Yes, Sir. A meeting of the International Air Transport Association was held in Montreux (Switzerland) from 19th March, 1974.

(b) The meetings of International Air Transport Association conferences are open only to member-airlines. Both Air India and Indian Airlines who are members of the Association, attended the meeting.

(c) The meeting discussed the following points :—

(i) Selection of an international unit to be used for specifying passenger fares and rates agreed by IATA ;

(ii) Baggage allowance for passengers travelling on services operated by member-airlines ;

(iii) Increases in world-wide fares and rates due to increase in the cost of aviation fuel.

(d) Names of member-airlines which attended the meeting are given in the attached statement. (Annexure).

Recruitment Rules in Nationalised Banks

5815. SHRI P. R. SHENOY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the rules of recruitment to the services in the 14 nationalised banks are not uniform ; and

(b) when will these rules be made uniform ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) and (b). The staff in the Nationalised Banks is broadly of 3 categories—officers, clerical and subordinate. The recruitment for officer staff is done in the banks on an all India basis, after calling for applications through advertisements in newspapers and candidates are selected after a written test and an interview. Clerical recruitment is generally done on a regional basis after notifying the vacancies to the Employment Exchange and also simultaneously issuing local advertisements for the recruitment. The selection of candidates for clerical posts is made after a written test followed by an interview of the candidates who qualify in the written test. Recruitment to the subordinate staff is usually made on a local basis and through the Employment Exchanges. While recruitment procedure in broad terms are similar, there are variations in rules among the banks regarding the age, qualification and qualifying standards as well as the selection process prescribed for recruitment.

The Banking Commission which among other things was asked to review the existing arrangements relating to recruitment and manpower planning in the banking industry has in its report recommended the setting up of a statutory common recruitment agency to be called the National Banking Service Commission with membership, functions, etc. on the lines of the Union Public Service Commission for recruitment of staff in public sector banks both at the clerical and junior officers level. It has also recommended the adoption of certain uniform procedures relating to the sources of recruitment, qualification including age and other eligibility criteria and the selection process.

While accepting the recommendation for setting up of a common recruitment agency, Government have decided that it should be set up by legislation and that the agency will initially be entrusted with the recruitment of non-specialist junior officers in the nationalised banks. As regards the other recommendations of the Banking Commission for bringing about uniformity in recruitment procedures the Government are broadly in agreement with them, and are in consultation with the Reserve Bank of

India in regard to the manner in which the uniformity in recruitment procedure could be achieved.

Foreign Exchange Earning by Export of Cashew nuts and Spices

5816. SHRI P. R. SHENOY :

SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the likely foreign exchange earnings by export of cashew nuts and spices during the current year ; and

(b) the percentage of likely increase in foreign exchange earnings as compared to the earnings during the last two years ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) The foreign exchange earnings during 1973-74 are expected to be :—

(i) Cashew Rs. 76 crores.

(ii) Spices Rs. 40 crores.

(b) *Cashew.*

(i) 24 per cent over 1971-72.

(ii) 11 per cent over 1972-73.

Spices

(i) 10.6 per cent over 1971-72.

(ii) 37.7 per cent over 1972-73.

Foreign Exchange earning by Handicrafts

5817. SHRI M. SUDARSANAM : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether handicrafts exported last year earned more foreign exchange than the previous two years; and

(b) if so, the extent thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Exports of handicrafts (including carpets but excluding gem & jewellery) during the past 3 years were as under :—

Year	Rs. in crores.
1970-71	37.54
1971-72	38.24
1972-73	51.80

Expanding trade and Economic Co-operation with oil producing companies

5818. SHRI VASANT SATHE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Institute of Foreign Trade has suggested to Government the internationalisation of some of the leading firms both in public and private sectors for expanding trade and economic co-operation with oil producing countries ;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government to the proposal and action taken/proposed to be taken in the matter ; and

(c) what other important suggestions have been made by the Institute for expanding trade with the Persian Gulf countries ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The recommendation is being studied.

(c) Some of the important suggestions made by the Institute are as follows :—

(i) setting up of joint working groups for developing trade and economic co-operation with some of the gulf countries.

(ii) Sponsoring feasibility studies for setting up Joint Ventures in selected industrial fields.

(iii) Promotion of export of consultancy services in promising fields.

(iv) Long term arrangements for supply of capital equipment, machinery and technical know-how for Government projects in gulf countries.

(v) Strengthening Commercial Representation in Indian Missions in gulf countries.

(vi) Organisation of exhibitions India Week and Seminars in gulf countries.

(vii) The report has also identified a number of products and has suggested sponsoring sales-*cum*-study-teams for promoting exports of these products.

Overtime in Communication Branches of Directorate General of Civil Aviation

5819. SHRI VASANT SATHE : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a scramble for overtime in Communication Branch (Bombay Sector) and other Communication Branches of Directorate General of Civil Aviation;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) to (c) A category of employees of the Aeronautical Communication Station Bombay have represented against the grant of overtime allowance to another category of employees at that station. Overtime in operational/technical maintenance wings of the Civil Aviation Department is resorted to as and when there are actual shortages obtaining in various cadres to ensure uninterrupted operation of aeronautical communication facilities. Instructions have been given to reduce overtime allowance wherever possible.

कंसोर्शियम भारत को दीर्घावधि सहायता देने के बारे में पैरिस में बैठक

5820. श्री श्रीकृष्ण अग्रवाल क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारत को सहायता देने वाले देशों की बैठक 9 अप्रैल, से 11 अप्रैल, 1964 तक पैरिस में होनी है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या इस बैठक में भारत को दीर्घावधि सहायता तथा विशेषकर पांचवीं योजना के अंतर्गत सहायता देने पर विचार किया जायेगा ; और

(ग) इन देशों से दीर्घावधि सहायता प्राप्त करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा किए गए प्रयत्नों का ब्योरा क्या है ?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री यशवन्तराव चव्हाण) : (क) भारत सहायता संघ के सदस्यों के कार्यकारी दल की बैठक 9 अप्रैल, 1974 से 11 अप्रैल, 1974 तक पैरस में होनी है।

(ख) इस बैठक में विश्व बैंक द्वारा तैयार किये गये प्रस्ताव पर विचार किया जायगा, जिसमें यह सुझाव दिया गया है कि सदस्यों द्वारा दी जाने वाली सहायता का कुछ भाग इस रूप में दिया जाना चाहिए जिसे स्वतंत्र रूप से इस्तेमाल किया जा सके।

(ग) आमतौर पर सहायता संघ के सदस्यों द्वारा वार्षिक आधार पर, संसद की आवश्यक स्वीकृति आदि लिये जाने की शर्त के साथ, सहायता दी जाती है फिर भी कुछ देशों ने संकेत दिया है कि वे कुछ लम्बे समय तक सहायता दे सकेंगे।

रूस के साथ आमों के व्यापार में कमी

5821. श्री श्रीकृष्ण अग्रवाल : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या हाल ही के कुछ महीनों में रूस के साथ आम तथा आम के जूस के व्यापार में कुछ कमी आई है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ; और

(ग) इस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री ए० सी० जार्ज): (क) सोवियत संघ को आमों का कोई वाणिज्यिक निर्यात नहीं हुआ है। 1973-74 के दौरान सोवियत संघ को आम के जूस का निर्यात, विगत वर्षों की तुलना में कम रहा।

(ख) यह कमी कम माल खरीदने की वजह से हुई।

(ग) आम के जूस का निर्यात का विविधीकरण करने के लिए प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं।

Export from Kerala during 1971 to 1974

5822. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the value of foreign exchange earned by Government by exporting marine products, Rubber, Tea, Coffee, Cashew, Coir goods, Handloom goods, Cardamom and other items from Kerala item-wise, in 1971-72, 1972-73, 1973-74; and

(b) what are the steps taken to promote the export of these commodities further and to develop these industries in that State ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Export statistics are not maintained state-wise. Total exports of the commodities in question are indicated below :—

Value in Rs. crores.

	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74 (Provisional)
Marine products	44.55	59.72	70.99 April-January
Rubber .	0.0011	0.0043	1.47 April 1973 to 28-3-74
Tea	164.55	153.09	79.04 April-October
Cashew	61.33	68.54	70.00 April-January
Coir goods .	14.86	14.94	13.58 April-February
Handloom goods	30.08	48.46	38.65 April-January
Coffee .	22.07	32.93	41.18 April-February
Cardamom	8.03	6.85	6.26 April-December.

(b) Incentives in the form of import replenishment, draw-back, cash compensatory allowance etc. as found admissible on verfication of costing data and *f.o.b.* realisation are given for promoting the exports of the items in question. Sales-*cum*-study Teams are sent to foreign countries for exploring possibilities of increasing exports. Publicity measures including participation in International Fairs are undertaken. Necessary measures are also being taken to increase production of these items.

Canalization of export trade of Coir through STC

5823. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to take over the export trade of coir and canalise the same through the State Trading Corporation;

(b) whether the Coir Board had adopted a resolution supporting this proposal;

(c) whether Government of Kerala and the Executive Committee of the Coir Advisory Board has also supported the

proposal and made certain suggestions regarding its implementation and if so, the broad outlines of the Kerala Government's proposals ; and

(d) at what stage is now the implementation of the decision regarding the take-over of the export of coir and its canalisation through S.T.C. ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) to (d). The proposal to canalise the export of Coir and Coir products was considered. The Coir Board has not recommended canalisation, nor has the Kerala Government favoured it.

Merger of various offices of new India Assurance Company with Bangalore unit of that Company

5824. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the General Insurance Corporation has decided to merge the various offices of the New India Assurance Company in Kerala with the Bangalore Unit for forming Southern Region of that company;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether the employees of the New India Assurance Company Limited, Kerala had approached the General Insurance Corporation with a request to treat Kerala Unit of the said Company as an independent area office in the Southern Region; and

(d) if so, the decision taken thereon.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b). There has been no decision by the General Insurance Corporation to merge the various Divisional and Branch offices of the New India Assurance Company operating in Kerala with the Area office at Bangalore. The Divisional offices of the company located in Kerala control all the branches within their jurisdiction and attend to their problems concerning underwriting, claims, accounts and administration, etc. The main function of the Area offices is to assist the Divisional offices located within their jurisdiction in development and technical matters. It is not an operational unit and, therefore, functions with a very limited number of staff. The jurisdiction of Area office at Bangalore extends to Divisional offices of Kerala, Karnataka and Goa.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Corporation has decided not to have a separate Area office for Kerala only.

Remittances by directors of Larsen and Toubro Ltd.

5825. SHRI R. S. PANDEY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Foreign Directors of Larsen and Toubro Limited are allowed to remit £ 150/- per month to Denmark;

(b) whether they are actually utilising the permission thus granted regularly; and

(c) whether it bears any relation to their total emoluments ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Particulars of personal recurring remittances allowed by the Reserve Bank of India and remitted by the Foreign Directors of Messrs. Larsen and Toubro are as under :—

	Net income per month	Amounts remitted per month	Percentage of remittance per month
	Rs.	Rs.	
1. Mr. H.H. Larsen.	5287.00	3150.00	59.58
2. Mr. J. Hover	2711.00	2025.00	74.70
3. Mr. G. Hansen	2958.00	2015.00	68.12
4. Mr. S. U. Toubro.	10101.00*	3150.00	31.19

(*Includes the income of his wife who is not a Director of the Company).

2. The remittance facilities have been given by the Reserve Bank of India as permissible under the current regulations.

Income Tax Officers

5826. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the strength of Income Tax Officers (actual working strength) at each Income Tax Office in the country;

(b) the number of Income Tax Commissioners at the various offices of Income Tax Department in the country; and

(c) the number of officers who are posted in the same place for more than three years ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Relaxation of Credit Squeeze for different sectors

5827. SHRI R. S. PANDEY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India, after imposing complete credit squeeze for over a month, recently relaxed it for some sectors;

(b) if so, the names of sectors for which squeeze has been relaxed; and

(c) the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India has made certain relaxations from the current credit restrictions in respect of the Small Scale Industries and export sectors. These relaxations have been made in view of the need for maintaining the tempo of growth in credit to the Small Scale Industries and for giving a boost to the export efforts.

Functioning of Tea Board without a Chairman

5828. SHRI B. S. BHAURA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tea Board and Tea Trading Corporation of India are functioning without a Chairman for the last six months; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). Shri T. S. Broca, Deputy Chairman, Tea Board, has been authorised to hold the current charge of the post of Chairman, Tea Board and to exercise full powers of the Chairman,

Tea Board in addition to his own duties with effect from 11-9-1973.

Shri V. V. Parekh, Chairman, State Trading Corporation of India Ltd., is a part-time Chairman-sum-Director of Tea Trading Corporation of India Ltd., with effect from 12-9-1973.

Recommendations of Committee set up to look after the interests of Jute Growers

5829. SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the broad outlines of the recommendations of the Committee set up by Government to look after the interests of jute growers and to suggest ways and means for the smooth functioning of the fibre trade; and

(b the decision of Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) The Committee has recommended measures for strengthening the infrastructure of the Jute Corporation of India and development of credit, marketing and warehousing facilities as well as training of personnel.

(b) Jute Corporation and other concerned agencies are taking steps to implement these recommendations.

Production of Century Rayon beyond the Sanctioned Capacity

5830. SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether production by the Century Rayon beyond the sanctioned capacity has been approved, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether similar approval is being given to other mills who have expanded their production without prior approval; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Affect on export trade in Jute Goods due to Reserve Bank's Credit Policy

5831. SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether export trade in jute goods has been adversely affected because of Reserve Bank's credit policy; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures taken by Government to overcome the situation ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government took up the matter with the Reserve Bank of India and relief has been provided in the form of exemption of the export sector from quantitative restrictions, provision of somewhat increased re-finance facility, etc.

Foreign Exchange Earned by Exporting Jute and Tea from West Bengal

5832. DR. RANEN SEN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the value of foreign exchange earned by Government by exporting jute and tea from West Bengal in 1971-72, 1972-73 and 1973-74; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to promote the trade further in that State ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) No separate figures of export of tea and jute from

West Bengal are available. The figures for exports from India are given below :—

Year	Tea		Jute	
	Qty. (in million Kg.)	Value (Rs. lakhs)	Qty. (in 000 tonnes)	Value (Rs. lakhs)
1971-72 .	219.50	16455	669.6	26471
1972-73	201.35	15309	587.4	24906
1973-74 (April to Oct.)	100.15	7904	324.3	13139

(b) Various measures to increase export of jute goods including assured supply of raw jute to mills, research and development activities towards cost reduction and diversification and modernisation, surveys of overseas markets, publicity abroad etc. are being taken. Tea promotion abroad is undertaken through both generic as well as uninational promotion programmes which include promotion of teas of different regions of India.

Import of Coconuts

5833. SHRI B. V. NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether import of coconut will be permitted from neighbouring countries like Sri Lanka in the year 1974-75 to stabilise the high prices of home grown coconut; and

(b) whether this is an alternative to ban use of coconut oil in manufacture of cosmetics ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) There is no proposal under consideration at present.

(b) Does not arise.

Functions performed on contractual basis in Indian Airlines

5834. SHRI B. V. NAIK : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the functions performed by the employees of Indian Airlines about six months back which are now being carried out on a contractual basis;

(b) the loss of employment caused thereby; and

(c) the savings effected as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) to (c) Indian Airlines were providing porterage and transport between city office and terminal on payment. These services have been withdrawn from the 4 international airports and some other stations. There has been no retrenchment of permanent staff on this score. It is rather early to make an assessment of the consequential savings.

Withdrawal of Import entitlements of Machinery

5835. SHRI GAJADHAR MAJHI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have withdrawn the concessional import entitlement of

machinery upto a CIF value of Rs. 25 lakhs by Indians returning from abroad or residing abroad in respect of certain items ranging from coal and coke derivatives; and

(b) if so, the particulars regarding such items and whether concession will continue for other categories of industries not covered by the current notification issued by the Chief Controller of Import and Exports ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b) The policy for import of machinery and raw materials by Indians coming from/residing abroad is contained in paragraph 163 in Section I of the Import Trade Control Policy (Red Book-Vol. I) for April 74—March-75, a copy of which is available in the Parliament Library.

Export of Birds and Animals

5836. SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the foreign exchange earned by the export of birds and animals during 1972-73; and

(b) the names of the animals and birds exported alongwith the names of the countries to which they were exported ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. (*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-6636/74)

Request made by Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry to constitute Investment Guarantee Scheme

5837. SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry has requested the Union Government to constitute an Investment Guarantee Scheme to protect Indian investment abroad;

(b) if so, the gist of other suggestions made by them for Government's consideration; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) A Committee constituted by the India-Africa Development Association and the FICCI had *inter alia* made the suggestion that Government should device a guarantee scheme to protect Indian investments abroad.

(b) The main other suggestions made by the Committee were :

(i) The scheme should be operated by the ECGC on behalf of the Government of India.

(ii) The maximum liability of the insurer under the guarantee should be 90 per cent of loss.

(iii) The scheme should cover political risks. The scheme should also cover risks due to changes in exchange parity, but commercial risks should not be covered.

(iv) The scheme should be introduced irrespective of whether there is inter-Government agreement between India and any other country covering such an investment.

(c) Government did not view favourably the suggestions made in this regard.

Daily loss to Indian Airlines between Madras and Trivandrum

5838. SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state whether Indian Airlines is losing several thousands of rupees daily, per trip between Madras and Trivandrum and if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : During the period April, 1973 to November, 1973 the service between Madras and Trivandrum was operated partly by Boeing 737 and partly by HS-748 aircraft resulting in a loss of approximately Rs. 5,000 per trip. The loss was largely due to the fact that the traffic demand did not grow as anticipated to justify a Boeing service. Effective 18th March, 1974, the service is being operated with a HS-748 aircraft and it is expected that the loss will come down.

Discontinuation of Air Services between Jamshedpur-Calcutta, Ranchi-Delhi-Ranchi, and Ranchi-Calcutta-Ranchi

5839. SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether air services between Jamshedpur-Calcutta, Ranchi-Delhi-Ranchi, Ranchi-Calcutta-Ranchi have been discontinued;

(b) whether Delhi-Agra-Delhi and Delhi-Jaipur-Delhi air services have not been discontinued; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) to (c) On account of the steep increase in the price of aviation fuel, Indian Airlines have been compelled to phase out Viscounts and Dakotas from their fleet. Their schedules have been recast effective from 18th March 1974 resulting in discontinuance of services to some cities and reduction in frequencies of services to some other cities.

Air services between Delhi and Ranchi and Jamshedpur and Calcutta have been discontinued. In the revised schedule there is a daily service between Calcutta and Patna *via* Ranchi.

Agra and Jaipur continue to be served because of their tourist and traffic potential.

Transfer of huge funds by management of National & Grindlays Bank to first National City Bank

5840. SHRI S. N. MISRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since inquired into the transfer of huge funds to First National City Bank by the management of National & Grindlays Bank in the form of technical fee remitted abroad;

(b) if so, whether Bank Employees Federation have also submitted a memorandum about the complaints against the bank's management; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) to (c). Presumably, the Hon'ble Member has in mind a Memorandum dated 18th July, 1973 received from the All India National & Grindlays Bank Employees' Federation, Calcutta, in which one of the points raised related to the payment of technical fees by the National & Grindlays Bank Ltd. to the First National City Bank. This point has been enquired into by the Reserve Bank of India which has reported that in terms of a "Technical services agreement" entered into by the National & Grindlays Bank Ltd. with the First National City Bank, valid for a period of five years from 1st April, 1969, the latter bank has agreed to render to the former bank technical services with respect to training programme, operating practice, credit policy, administration, expansion and development of business. The payments in terms of this agreement are made in rupees in India by the National & Grindlays Bank Ltd. to the First National City Bank and the question of remittance of funds abroad for this purpose does not, therefore, arise. The Reserve Bank has further reported that as the

agreement related to payment of remuneration between one Indian resident and another Indian resident, it did not appear to attract any provisions of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1947. However, as this was a matter on which the Reserve Bank felt that it should exercise its control, it has issued a directive in November, 1972 which directs that no banking institution or company shall, without the approval of the Reserve Bank, appoint or employ *inter alia*, any banking institution or company incorporated outside India, or any branch or office in India, of such banking institution or company, as its adviser for giving it any technical or management advice in regard to the business in India of such banking company or any part of such business. In pursuance of this directive, Indian branches of foreign banks and the foreign banks operating in India are now required to furnish a certificate with their applications for remittance of profits certifying that no part of the income included in the amount to be remitted as profits has arisen out of any appointment as technical/management adviser to a banking company in India, accepted without the approval of the Reserve Bank.

Export of Ready Made Garments inspite of stiff competition

5841. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether garment manufacturers in India, have in the course of last few years assiduously cultivated foreign markets despite strong competition from Hongkong, Taiwan, Japan and South Korea;

(b) if so, the average earning of foreign exchange through export of garments during the last three years; and

(c) the steps Government propose to help growth of this industry ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Exports of garments of all fabrics from India during the years 1971-72, 1972-73 and 1973-74 were worth Rs. 17.85 crores, Rs. 35.56 crores and Rs. 51.00 crores respectively.

(c) Some of the steps being taken for growth of our garments industry are given below.

(i) Licensing of additional capacity and import of machinery for export production of garments.

(ii) Import of fabrics is being allowed for export production of garments under custom's bond.

(iii) Technical collaboration with internationally reputed garments manufacturers is being favourably considered, wherever necessary.

Popularity of Indian Handloom Sarees Abroad

5842. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Handloom Sarees are becoming popular in foreign countries; and

(b) if so, the names of such countries and the steps Government have taken to start more weaver training centres to impart technical training ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) The countries to which exports of Indian handloom sarees are made are Bangladesh, Sudan, Maurituis, Malaysia, Nepal, U.K., Singapore, Kenya, France and West Germany.

(ii) Three Weavers' Service Centres have been started during 1973-74, while two Centres and two Sub-Centres are proposed to be started in 1974-75.

Exemption of Duty on Import of Silk worm seed

5843. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kashmir Government has failed to take advantage of the exemption of duty of Rs. 25 lakhs granted by the Central Government on import of silk-worm seed;

(b) whether the State has so far been able to procure only 2,000 ounces of silk-worm seed from Japan and another 1,200 ounces from Italy against 10,000 ounces last year; and

(c) if so, the salient features regarding the feature policy of Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected.

Increase in the Leather Export

5844. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the leather export has increased recently;

(b) which are the States in India helping Government for increased leather export;

(c) whether the functioning of leather corporation in those States is still limited; and

(d) if so, the broad features thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The principal States are Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh.

(c) No Leather Corporations are functioning in these States.

(d) Does not arise.

Conversion of loans given by financial institutions into equity shares

5845. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in a large number of big enterprises and undertakings the loans advanced by various public sector financial institutions including L.I.C., I.F.C., Banks and N.I.D.C. have not yet been converted into equity shares with consequential changes in management; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):(a) and (b). Pursuant to the recommendation of the Industrial Licensing Policy Inquiry Committee and subsequent guidelines issued by the Government to the financial institutions, viz., the Industrial Development Bank of India, the Industrial Finance Corporation of India, the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India, the Life Insurance Corporation and the Unit Trust of India, the institutions have commenced since 1970 writing in of convertibility clause in all appropriate cases of loan/debenture agreements. Out of 445 such cases, only in 11 cases the institutions have so far exercised their option for conversion of a portion of the loan/debenture into equity shares as the period stipulated in the agreements for the exercise of the right of conversion has fructified only in respect of these 11 cases. Conversion option becomes exercisable only after the projects have gone into commercial production and have reached profit earning stage which normally happens after 4 to 5 years of their operations.

The convertibility guidelines do not apply to loans and advances by banks and the National Industries Development Corporation.

Shifting of Import/Export Trade to Rupee Payment Areas

5846. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what efforts have been made to lessen India's requirements of foreign exchange during the last three years and to what effect;

(b) what efforts have been and are being made to shift our import-export trade to countries accepting rupee payment or some sort of barter deals; and

(c) whether the imports from U.S.A. U.K., and other countries are made proportionate to our exports to those countries, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) The country's foreign exchange requirements are kept under control through enlargement of foreign exchange earnings by visible and invisible exports and reduction in foreign exchange expenditure by way of import substitution through larger domestic production of imported items, eliminating in essential imports as well as by controlling the out go on invisibles account.

(b) It is the Government's policy to promote trade with all countries including countries with which trade is carried on rupee payment basis. Depending on the circumstances barter deals are also undertaken in case these are advantageous.

(c) No, Sir. While trade with the rupee payment countries is regulated through Annual Trade Plans, trade with the U.S.A. U.K., and other free market economies is carried on the basis of factors governing international commerce.

Complaints against Income-tax evaders in Delhi

5847. SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred question No. 358 on the 17th August, 1973 regarding complaint against tax evaders received by Income-tax authorities in Delhi and state:

(a) the number of complaints disposed of so far and the amount of Income-tax and penalty if any, imposed on each of the individuals/firms;

(b) the number of cases in which Income-tax has not been imposed on firms/individuals after investigation; and

(c) the number of cases still pending investigations and the time likely to be taken in their final disposal?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) to (c) Of the 399 complaints referred to, 50 complaints have been forwarded to other Commissioners' charges as they do not pertain to the charges of Commissioner of Income Tax at Delhi. A few cases have been filed, as the complaints were found to be baseless. As regards the remaining complaints, they are at different stages of enquiry. It would be premature to indicate now the tax effect in these cases. In these cases, necessary action as called for under the law will be taken as and when the enquiries are completed.

If the Honourable M.P. requires information about any specific case, the same can be collected and furnished.

Complaints against tax evaders received by Income-tax department, Delhi

5848. SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 358 on the 17th August, 1973 regarding complaints against tax evaders received by Income-tax authorities in Delhi and state:

(a) whether certain firms/individuals have closed their accounts from the nationalised banks during financial year 1973-74 after the complaints of Income-tax evasion were made against them;

(b) whether any such firms/individuals have closed their accounts from the Syndicate Bank Branch located at Rani Jhansi Road, New Delhi-55 and if so, the names of such firms and individuals; and

(c) whether instructions will be issued to Banks to supply detailed information expeditiously about the bank accounts of such firms and persons to the Income-tax authorities when so asked for by them?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Under Sections 131 and 133 of the Income-tax Act, 1961, no Income-tax authority can obtain information from banks except in respect of individual assessees. Therefore, if the Hon'ble Member desires to have information about any particular firm or individual, it will be obtained and furnished.

(c) Does not arise.

Rate of Savings in Fifth Five Year Plan

5849. SHRI BANAMALI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Government propose to take to achieve higher rate of savings envisaged in the Fifth Five Year Plan; and

(b) whether the desirability of raising the rate of interest on deposits with banks and post offices, raising the exemption limits of dividends and interest and making the same applicable to interest accruing from fixed deposits accepted by public limited companies have been considered to achieve this objective?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) The draft Fifth Five Year Plan indicates the various policies and measures for stepping up both public and private savings. The implementation of these policies and measures will depend upon the situation prevailing from time to time.

(b) The rates of interest on deposits with banks and the various small savings securities have been increased with effect from the 1st April 1974. The Government have not, however, recently considered any proposal for raising the exemption limits of dividends and interest or for extending the exemption limits to interest on fixed deposits with public limited companies other than banking companies.

Conversion of Cochin into a Free Trade Zone

5850. SHRI R. S. PANDEY:
SHRI M. SUDARSANAM:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kerala State has urged the Centre to convert Cochin into a free trade zone; and

(b) if so, the decision of Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b) Suggestions have been received from different State Governments for setting up free trade zones in a number of places including Cochin. These are presently under the consideration of a working group.

Commission paid by Indian Airlines to American Express Travel Division

5851. SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the American Express (travel division) which is an agent of the Indian Airlines books passengers in addition to their quota and thereby puts the passengers to great inconvenience;

(b) whether some employees of this concern, who deal with passenger booking

and refund, demand some amount from the clients for refund; and

(c) what is the total amount of commission paid to this agency by the Indian Airlines during the year 1973?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Travel agents do not have any allotted quota of seats for reservation. All reservations are made with the Central Space Control Booking Offices on the basis of first come first served.

(b) It has been verified from the available records that no such complaint has been received. However, the Corporation will look into the matter.

(c) The total amount of commission earned by the agent for the calendar year 1973 is as under:—

	Rs.
Bombay .	1,17,517.80
Calcutta .	1,79,190.15
Delhi .	2,21,504.46
Total .	5,18,212.41

Proposed one-day token strike by Central and State Government Employees

5852. SHRI M. M. JOSEPH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a national convention of Central and State Government Employees Organisation has decided a one-day token strike on the 9th April, 1974 in support of their demands;

(b) whether their demands include need-based minimum wage, full neutralisation, bonus, vacation of victimisation and grant of trade union rights; and

(c) if so, the action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) Reports have appeared in a section of the Press to the effect that State Government employees contemplate such a step.

(b) and (c) Matters relating to emoluments and other conditions of service of State Government employees are primarily the concern of the respective State Governments. Accordingly any situation arising out of a threat of a strike by any category of such employees will have to be dealt with by the State Governments concerned.

Unsatisfactory Functioning of C.C.I.

5853. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE
SHRI K. MALLANNA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cotton Corporation of India is not functioning properly;

(b) whether it is making huge loss on its operations;

(c) the number of bales purchased by it in the season 1971-72 and the season 1972-73; and

(d) the steps taken by the Corporation to improve its working?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b) It is not correct to say that the C.C.I. is not functioning properly or making losses on operations.

(b) During 1971-72 Cotton year the Corporation purchased about 5.20 lakh bales of Cotton worth Rs. 58 crores. During 1972-73 cotton year the Corporation purchased 3.20 lakh bales valued at about Rs. 45 crores.

(d) Does not arise.

Sale of U.S. Dollar below the Official rate of Exchange

5854. SHRI ISHAQUE SAMBHALI: SHRI B. S. BHAURA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the recent large scale sale of U.S. Dollars at Bombay at a much lower price than the official rate;

(b) if so, the broad features thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) to (c) Government have also reports of certain unofficial transactions which take place in foreign currencies at rates different from the official exchange rates. These transactions are in contravention of the Exchange Control Regulations.

Submission of Export Stategy Committee Report

5855. SHRI RAJA KULKARNI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee to evolve and formulate export strategy for our country, has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the major recommendations made by the Committee; and

(c) if not, the reason for delay?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Group is continuing its deliberations to evolve a suitable strategy which would take into account the situation arising out of the increase in oil prices.

Foreign Investment

5856. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United States Textile Machinery trade mission which visited India recently has stated that fast-changing rules in India worry U.S. investors; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government on the points raised by the team during their discussions and steps taken or proposed to attract more foreign investment in the country?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) No, Sir. The Mission did not raise any such point.

(b) Does not arise.

Permission to Export Old Stock of Staple Cotton

5857. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Textile Commissioner has turned down a request by the Cotton Corporation of India for blanket permission to export its old stock of staple cotton to Japan, Hong Kong, Korea, and Philippines;

(b) whether the Corporation wanted to quote for 700 bales in response to a tender floated by Sri Lanka but that has not been allowed; and

(c) if so, the salient features regarding the policy of Government for supply of cotton particularly in the light of a worldwide shortage of cotton?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Cotton Corporation of India was permitted to quote for 700 bales of staple cotton against the tender floated by the National Textile Corporation, Sri Lanka. The offer made by the Cotton

Corporation of India was, however, not accepted by the National Textile Corporation, Sri Lanka.

(c) Government policy does not contemplate export of staple cotton barring specific bilateral trade commitments which are made on exceptional grounds.

Foreign owned plantation in India

5858. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the foreign owned plantations in India have already transferred their ownership to Indians;

(b) if so, the broad features of the transactions made during the last three years;

(c) the name of Indians or Indian firms or companies who bought these plantations; and

(d) the reaction of Government about such transactions between foreigners and Indians?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT—6637/74]

(d) Government views such transactions favourably if it is satisfied that the price paid is reasonable and the intending buyers has experience and expertise to maintain productive efficiency and export potential of the plantations.

Inquiry against Foreign Directors of Larsen and Toubro Ltd.

5859. SHRI R. S. PANDEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Income-tax investigations have been started against three of the Foreign Directors of Larsen and Toubro Ltd. under advice from the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs;

(b) whether similar proceedings are pending against a foreign General Manager of a subsidiary of the Company; and

(c) if so, the present state of the inquiries?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Investigations are still in progress.

Convention on Exports held in New Delhi

5860. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a convention on exports was held at New Delhi on 21st February, 1974;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry's officials attended it; and

(c) if so, main topics discussed at the convention?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The broad features of the main topics discussed at the convention related to:—

1. Export Strategy for the 5th Plan.
2. Production and Pricing.
3. State Trading and Export Houses.
4. Shipping and Transport.
5. Credit and Finance in Exports.

Increase in the paid-up capital of Firestone Tyre and Rubber Co. of India Pvt. Ltd.

5861. SHRI BRIJ RAJ SINGH KOTAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the orignal paid-up capital of Firestone Tyre and Rubber Company of India Private Limited was only Rs. 20,000 which was increased to Rs. 1,10,00,000 by capitalising the reserves made out of retained profits worth Rs. 1,09,80,000 by issue of 549 bonus shares for every share held;

(b) whether all these bonus shares were issued to the American parent company; and

(c) whether permission of Government was granted and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Yes. Sir.

(c) Permission was granted in 1961 after all the tests applicable to a Bonus Issue *viz.* capitalisation of reserves were satisfied.

Selection Grade for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Auditors

5862. SHRI AMBESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a letter was issued on 25th January, 1973 by Comptroller and Auditor General to all Accountant Generals in India for the sanction of Selection Grade to the Auditors belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the basis of reservation for these communities;

(b) whether the Selection Grade sanctioned to the auditors of the above communities is withdrawn on change of their religion; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) Comptroller and Auditor General's letter dated 25th January, 1973 applies to reservations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in posts filled by promotion on the basis of seniority subject to fitness. Promotion to Selection Grade in Auditor's cadre is made on the basis of 'merit-cum-seniority', in respect of which reservations existed even prior to the issue of this letter.

(b) and (c) An employee belonging to to a Scheduled Caste ceases to be eligible for the special benefit granted to him as such a member of a Scheduled Caste, if he changes his religion from the Hindu or Sikh religion, with effect from the date of such change. This is considered necessary in order to conform to the constitutional provision relating to reservation of posts.

Overdraft by Madhya Pradesh

5863. SHRI MARTAND SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the position regarding overdrafts drawn by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh upto January, 1974; and

(b) the steps Government have proposed to recover the amounts of overdrafts from the State?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) The State Government of Madhya Pradesh has not overdrawn on the RBI from Ist May, 1972 upto January, 1974.

(b) Does not arise.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED DELAY IN THE LIFTING OF Rs. 40 LAKHS WORTH OF NEWSPRINT BY THE STC FROM BOMBAY PORT.

श्री यमुना प्रसाद मण्डल (समस्तीपुर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, आपकी आज्ञा से मैं निम्नलिखित विषय की ओर माननीय वाणिज्य मंत्री का ध्यान दिलाता हूँ और प्रार्थना करता हूं कि वे इस विषय में एक वक्तव्य दें :

"राज्य व्यापार निगम द्वारा बम्बई पत्तन से 40 लाख रुपये के मूल्य के अखबारी कागज को उठाने में विलम्ब के समाचार।"

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the actual position regarding the reported delay in lifting of Rs. 40.00 lakhs worth of newsprint by the S.T.C. from the Bombay Port is as follows:—

Import of newsprint is arranged through bulk contracts entered into by S.T.C. with foreign suppliers. The individual newspapers to whom the imported newsprint is allocated by the Registrar of Newspapers are granted sub-licences with letters of authority against a main licence issued to the S.T.C. to enable them to clear consignment through the Customs. This procedure has, however, been found rather cumbersome and wasteful to the extent that very large number of sub-licences had to be issued against one main licence. The procedure was, therefore, suitably modified by Chief Controller of Imports and Exports in consultation with the S.T.C. and the Registrar of Newspapers in order to avoid unnecessary waste and to simplify the procedure.

At a meeting held accordingly by Chief Controller of Imports and Exports on the 1st Febraury, 1974, a decision was taken to the effect that only letters of authority need be issued which would reduce delays to the minimum.

There was some delay in the clearance of one consignment of newsprint by the Customs authorities in Bombay pending certain clarifications. These clarifications have since been furnished, and the consignments has been cleared.

Two ships "Samuel Marshal" with Russian newsprint consisting of 1156 tonnes and "Jalkendra" with 40 tonnes of newsprint arrived on the 3rd of March and 13th of March respectively. The consignment in respect of Jalkendra was fully cleared in the normal course. For the consignment in respect of the Russian newsprint, while the ship arrived on the 3rd of March, *the* actual landing was on only on 23rd of March and the clearance of consignments commenced on the 28th of March. Hon. Members would, therefore, appreciate that at best the delay was of 5 days. Since the normal free clearance time is four days after the actual landing of the ship, the goods were on demurrage only from the 28th March onwards for about a week during which there were two holidays. It may also be mentioned that during this period there were three/other vessels containing newsprint which were being cleared and there was considerable congestion at the Bombay Port.

As regards demurrage, S.T.C. has taken up the matter of waiving the demurrage charge with the concerned authorities, and I can assure the Hon. Members that if there is any demurrage to be paid, this would not be passed on to the newsprint consumers.

श्री यमुना प्रसाद मंडल : अध्यक्ष महोदय, अखबारी कागजों के मिलने में कितनी कठिनाई है यह सारे समाचार जगत को मालूम है । मैं मंत्री जी का ध्यान उस ओर दिलाऊंगा जब वह कहते हैं कि पहली फरवरी को ही सी०सी०आई०ई० और एस०टी०सी० के अफसरों के बीच सभी बातें हो गई थीं और यह निश्चय हुआ कि केवल अथौरिटी लेटर से ही काम चल जायगा, और फिर भी वह बराबर चाहते थे कि कुछ और क्लैरीफिकेशन मांगा जाय । पहली तारीख को जब मीटिंग हुई थी उसमें क्लैरीफिकेशन्स की बात नहीं हुई कि ऐसा हुआ तो क्या होगा, वैसा हुआ तो क्या होगा । दोनों ओर के अधिकारी बैठते हैं और कहा जाता है कि कुछ देरी अखबारी कागज की सप्लाई के लिए बहुत ही खतरनाक होती है । अखबारी कागज के नहीं पहुंचने पर बड़ी दिक्कत होती है, और अभी भी जो पहुंचा है क्या हालत होती है इस को माननीय सूचना मंत्री ने बताया था कि और वह उस के बारे में काम कर रहे हैं । छोटे अखबार वालों ने की तो बात न पूछिये । मेरे यहां पर एक पेपर मिल है समस्तीपुर में जो 6, 7 साल से बन्द है । क्या होगा कागज के बारे में यह मैं नहीं कह सकता हूं । 7 साल से वह मिल बन्द है । मंत्री जी का कहना है कि 5 दिन की देरी हुई जिस में से दो दिन छुट्टी रही । 4 दिन का फ्री क्लीयरेंस मिलता है उस को छोड़कर एक यही

बेचारा जहाज "सैमुअल मार्शल" ही रुक गया और "जल केन्द्र" अच्छे ढंग से पहुंच गया । क्या कारण था यह तो मंत्री महोदय ही बतायेंगे ।

विद्वान प्रोफेसर मंत्री महोदय ने कहा कि बड़े पोर्ट में, भारत के सब से बड़े नैचुरल हार्बर में बहुत कंजेस्चन था, यद्यपि ट्रांसपोर्ट डिपार्टमेंट की तरफ से बहुत अच्छा इंतजाम किया जा रहा है । में समझता हूँ कि कम से कम कुछ प्रायरेटी निश्चित करनी चाहिए पोर्ट कमिश्नर को जिस से यह स्थिति इन सब वस्तुओं के बारे में न आये । मंत्री महोदय ने यह भी कहा है कि डैमरेज की बात नहीं होगी, और बराबर हाइपोथिटिकल बात कही है । अगर आप शार्टरी लाइन को देखेंगे तो पता चलेगा उन्होंने एक्सपोरेंस दिया है हमारे जरिये उन लोगों को जिन के पास अखबारी कागज पहुंचने वाला है कि आप घबरायें नहीं यह जो भी डैमरेज होगा वह राष्ट्र के खाते में लिखा जायेगा । बहुत अच्छी बात होगी ? ऐस०टी०सी० तो नामी है अच्छा काम करने में फिर भी यह किसी खाते में लिखा जायेगा, मैं इसका विरोध करता हूं । और चाहता हूं कि जो आप ने हाइपोथीटिकल जवाब दिया है इफ़ और बट के साथ में, तो अगर काफी डैमरेज हुआ तो किन-किन बाह्य अफ़सरों की वजह से हुआ, "योग्य", उनकी दक्षता की वजह से, "दक्षता", चाहे वह अधिकारी सी०सी० आई०ई० के हों या एस०टी०सी० के हों या कस्टम के हों क्या उन लोगों के ऊपर रेस्पान्सीबिलीटीज फिक्स की जायेगी कि आप ने राष्ट्र के प्रति अच्छा काम नहीं किया जब कि अखबारी कागज की बड़ी जरूरत है । क्या उन्हें कुछ सर्टिफिकेट दिया जावेगा, या लेटर किया जावेगा, वह तो विद्वान प्रोफेसर ही बता सकते हैं ।

पोर्ट कमिश्नर चाहे तो डैमरेज को वेव कर सकता है, रेलवेज में भी ऐसा होता है जब कभी भारत सरकार की ओर से या राज्य सरकार की ओर से कोई अनअवोयडेबिल डिले हो जाती हैं तो वेव करते हैं । वैसे ही इस मामले में पोर्ट कमिश्नर डैमरेज वेव कर दे तो अच्छी बात है । मगर जब पहली फरवरी को सारी बातें हो गई सभी लोगों के बीच और सब कुछ उन्हें समझा दिया गया दोनों पक्ष की ओर से, फिर भी यह सब गलतियां होती हैं । मैं समझता हूं कि कागजात बड़ी मंथर गति से चलते हैं, जो कि नहीं होना चाहिए । इन बातों पर मंत्री महोदय की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है यह मैं उनसे जानना चाहूंगा ।

दूसरी बात यह है कि बराबर हम लोग जब हिन्दी में पूछते हैं तो एक प्रति हिन्दी की, लोक सभा सचिवालय को तर्जुमा कर के, अगर हम को मिल जाया करे तो हमारे जैसे कम अंग्रेजी जानने वालों को सुविधा होगी । क्या इसकी व्यवस्था आप करने की कृपा करेंगे ।

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: The hon. Member has raised many questions. We have already pointed out that this delay was very short and unavoidable. Although the ship reached the port on the 3rd, due to port congestion on which we have no say, the actual landing started on the 23rd, after a delay of 20 days. So far as the newsprint is concerned, the actual landing started on the 28th. So, there was a delay of only five days, out of which two were holidays. Therefore, you will apreciate that there was no delay which was avoidable.

Secondly, though procedural simplification was agreed upon, the customs authorities wanted some clarification. Some time was taken for communicating the clarification and so three days were lost. It was not a big delay and it was not avoidable. I can assure the hon. Members that in future we will see that even this small delay is avoided.

Coming to demurrage, we have already assured that the newspapers will not be required to pay anything, if at all it is necessary. Even in resect of the public exchequer, as I have indicated, we have taken up the case with the customs and we hope that it will be waived. More than expressing a hope, I cannot do anything more on this point.

The last question was a suggestion that in future we should see to it that speedy clearance is effected. At about the same time many other ships came in many other ports which brought newsprint and they were cleared speedily. So, it is only in one case that we could not act so speedily, as we wanted. I can assure him that in future we will ensure that there is no avoidable delay.

श्री यमुना प्रसाद मण्डल : मैं एक स्पष्टीकरण चाहता हूं। पहली फरवरी को मीटिंग हुई थी। क्या वहां जो निर्णय किए गए वे उन को कस्टम वालों को, पोर्ट कमिश्नर को तथा दूसरे सम्बद्ध लोगों के पास नहीं भेजा गया था ? अगर भेजा गया था तो उन लोगों को इन सब बातों के बारे में मालूम हो जाना चाहिए था। लोडिंग और अनलोडिंग में जो देर होती है वह तो अम्य है। वह तो बेब करना ही होगा....

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आपने जो क्लैरीफिकेशन पूछना है, पूछें।

श्री यमुना प्रसाद मण्डल : बाकी जो कुछ इन्होंने कहा है उससे मैं सन्तुष्ट हूं।

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Sir, this is a matter which has come time and again before this House, and I have not got the slightest doubt that the Government, in principle, want to curb the mass media in the country and, therefore, they are taking recourse to all these methods. I will give you enough documentary evidence to prove that. Whatever little adverse comments that the mass media come out with against the Government and their leaders is not to be borne by them and, therefore, the best course that is open to them is to curb these mass media by hook or by crook.

You will find from the Ministry's Annual Report for the year 1973-74 that, in 1971-72 the import of newsprint was valued at Rs. 27.6 crores, and in 1972-73 the import has come down to Rs. 20.5 crores. I request the hon. Minister to clarify truthfully, for a change, as to what is the reason, although prices have gone up by 300 per cent, the total value of import has considerably gone down as far as import of newsprint for mass media is concerned. . .

MR. SPEAKER: It is not a general question concerning import. The call-attention is regarding the reported delay in the lifting of newsrint by the STC from the Bombay Port.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: This is a very vital thing, Sir. You had been a journalist.

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not mislead me also.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Sir, here is something where it is said:

> "The newsprint position has become more difficult in view of the considerable shortfall in the arrival of contracted imports. Until the last week of February, only 54,708 tonnes of anticipated 1,26,700 tonnes of newsprint imports had arrived."
>
> "... Besides, of the tonnage yet to come, about 19,140 tonnes was lost because of the invocation of '*force majeure*' by one of the Canadian suppliers."

This is a clipping from the *Times of India* of 24th March, 1974. The February arrival figures have been far below the anticipated figure. In spite of that, when they had received the consignment at Bombay Port, they had been sitting over it, dilly-dallying. I will just now establish that also.

On top of that, the current extraordinary shortage is due to the bungling of STC which short-purchased newsprint to the extent of as much as 50,000 tonnes last year. If STC had cared to build up a buffer stock instead of whittling down contractual entitlements, the difficulties being faced by the Corporation in arranging imports at the moment due to worldwide shortage would have been easily surmounted.

They had entered into a contract with the Scandinavian countries where the contractual agreement entitled them to bring 20,000 tonnes as a 'must' and an additional 20,000 tonnes also; out of that entitlement of 40,000 tonnes and where the prices were quite favourable, they did not import more than 13,000 tonnes. This is very surprising.

On the statement I want to ask a few questions. I want to ask why at this stage—what is the specific reason—they wanted to change the procedure in the

matter of clearance and delivery—CCIE licensing STC on the strength of sub-licences. There is a basic change to what is stipulated in the Import Trade Control Book, page 4, and how is it that, by a sort of quasi-executive informal order, they could over-rule this which has clearly stated "Registration of Licences at ports" which makes it mandatory that those who go and take delivery of these things as sub-licencees or licencees will have to comply with certain requirements which are stipulated in their own publication? Why should they ride rough-shod over this? Sub-licences, it is said that the Registrar of Newspapers have granted sub-licences with letters of authority against the main licence issued to the STC to enable them to clear the consignment before the Customs. I have quoted from the Import Trade Book. Why had they taken this measure? Why is it that they did not get the concurrence of the Customs? Why is it that they have suddenly gone for a basic change?

Since when the old procedure which they now consider as cumbersome was in force? What was the necessity of doing it just now?

Then, it says that the procedure was suitably modified by the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports in consultation with the STC and the Registrar of Newspapers in order to avoid unnecessary waste and to simplify the reasons. I want to know why the Customs people were not called to this meeting and also when was this procedure actually suitably modified? What is the actual date? You had a meeting on the 1st of February. I agree. I want to know when actually this procedure was suitably modified.

On page 2 he has said that the clarifications have since been furnished and the consignment has been cleared. When did they receive these clarifications and when actually were these passed on to the Customs in Bombay?

He has said that in respect of the Russian newsprint while the ship arrived on the 3rd March, actually the landing was on 23rd March and the clearance of the consignment commenced on the 28th of March. Before they could get the new procedure fully clear, why is it that they introduced the new procedure? You can condemn the old method. You can easily amend, but before it is wholly accepted by all the authorities concerned, why was it enforced?

Then, he has talked about demurrage. I want to know the rate of demurrage and also if the port authorities did not waive the demurrage, who is going to pay if the newsprint consumers did not pay? Is it not going to be in a way indirectly debited to the account of the tax-payers in the country, because there is no third person involved? Because it is either the Government or the consumer. I want to know the answers for these categoric questions.

Also prof. Chattopadhyaya has said that in respect of the long-term contracts signed by the STC towards the end of 1971 many of the sellers did not honour the contract because of the soaring prices. I want to know what sort of a contract it is which gives the suppliers these loopholes? Suppose the prices would have gone down, would the Government have that power and opportunity under the contract, if they wanted, to get out of the contract? Could they have done so? A contract cannot be one-sided. If the suppliers can get out of it, the buyers also should be able to get out of it. We also want to know clearly what is that contract by which the sellers can get out without paying any penalty for it.?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: The hon. Member has observed that this delay has something to do with curbing the mass media. I want to assure him that there is not the slightest intention to do anything with that sort of thing. So, that question does not arise at all.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Are yon sure?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: Yes, I am.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Asian ibles is there.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: very man is fallible except a few.

The question is that the interesting gures show what we are doing. These gures show that this year we are excep- ng on the basis of firm contracts some 3,000 tonnes from Canada and 36,000 onnes from USSR and other Socialist ountries and 7,000 tonnes from Bangla Desh. All added, it comes to 1,60,000 onnes. So far in the first quarter it has been 30,000 tonnes and firm shipping has been booked for 75,000 tonnes and in the first half of 1974 we except an average monthly arrival of 12,000 tonnes. It compares very favourably with the monthly arrival of last year which was 5,000 tonnes. So, the situation is much better than what it was last year.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I have put specific questions. . .

MR. SPEAKER: I am afraid much of what you have raised is out of scope. I was looking at you and when you came back within the scope of the question. I felt relaxed. The moment I did it, you again went out of it.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : We know each other for the last six years.

MR. SPEAKER : You have now asked one question which is out of the scope and you are trying your wits and his also.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: You should take it as a supplementary. The question is: 1971-72, it was Rs. 27 crores and 1972-73 when the prices are lower it was only Rs. 20 crores....

MR. SPEAKER: The call attention is about Rs. 40 lakhs worth of newsprint at the Bombay harbour. You are going by exports year by year.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Sir, it is part of the whole game.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, we pass on to the next item.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : He has yet to reply to my questions.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA : Only two other questions remain. . .

MR. SPEAKER: If you do voluntarily amongst yourselves, I do not come in.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA : He asked why the procedure was changed. I have already explained it rather in detail in the body of the statement that it was to save time and trouble to the newspapers that we agreed on this simplified procedure. Instead of issuing sub-licences to innumer- able newspapers and causing a lot of avoidable difficulties for them, we suggested this procedure which will minimise their labour and trouble and time. So, that was the rationale behind the simplified procedure.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: The whole question arises out of my statement. The old procedure—how old it was and for how many years it was in force.

MR. SPEAKER : How does it relate to Bombay Harbour ?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I am put- ting forward my question out of his state- ment. I have put a specific question. The procedure which they have described as cumbersome—how old was this procedure ?

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE : (Calcutta—North-East) : Be sensible for a change.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA : It was last year's procedure which was sought to be modified this year. The date has already been mentioned.

The other question he asked was: whether it was indicated to the Collector of Customs. My answer is : yes. It was intimated. . . (*Interruptions*).

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Was he called for the meeting ? Why should I be allowed to be taken for a ride ? I asked why the customs people were not

invited to attend the meeting which took place between the STC, the Registrar of Newspapers and the Chief Controller of Imports & Exports.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I had never been disorderly. Why the Customs people were not called for that meeting?

Sir, you allow the Minister to go away like the Asian Cables.

MR. SPEAKER: No. I do not allow both of you to go on like this.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I have formulated my questions out of the statement which the Minister laid on the Table of the House. I am asking: in the meeting that was held on the 1st February why is it that the representative of the Customs Department was not invited? Why did they not attend the meeting?

MR. SPEAKER: He won't sit down unless you reply.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: Sir, I have already informed him that this is not a matter which is of such an importance that always all persons should be called. Because, that sort of understanding is there between Ministries. Also, they They did not object to it.

12.55 ½ hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

CENTRAL EXCISE (FIRST AMDT.) RULES UNDER CENTRAL EXCISES AND SALT ACT, 1944.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): On behalf of Shri K. R. Ganesh, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Central Excise (First Amendment) Rules, 1974 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification, No. G.S.R. 284 in Gazette of India dated the 23rd March, 1974, under section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-6621/74]

REPORT ON THE WORKING OF THE COMMISSION OF RAILWAY SAFETY FOR 1972-73

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) on the working of the Commission of Railwas Safety for the year 1972-73. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT—6620/74]

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER GOVT. SAVINGS BANKS ACT, 1973, GOVT. SAVINGS CERTIFICATES ACT 1959, CUSTOMS ACT, 1962, BENGAL FINANCE (SALES TAX) ACT, 1941 & DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) . I beg to lay on the Table :

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 15 of the Government Savings Banks Act 1973:—

(i) The Post Office Savings Banks (Second Amendment) Rules, 1974, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 156(E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th March, 1974.

(ii) G.S.R. 157(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th March, 1974.

[*Placed in Library See.* No. LT-6621/74]

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 12 of the Government Savings Certificates Act, 1959:

(i) The National Savings Certificates (Fourth Issue) (Amendment) Rules, 1974, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 158(E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th March, 1974.

(ii) The National Savings Certificates (Fifth Issue) (Amendment) Rules 1974, published in Notification No. G. S. R. 159(E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th March, 1974.

(iii) The Govt. Savings Certificates (Amendment) Rules 1974, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 160(E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th March, 1974.

[*Placed in Library. See No.* LT-6622/74]

(3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962 :—

(i) G.S.R. 144(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th March, 1974 together with an explanatory memorandum.

(ii) G.S.R. 153(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th March, 1974 together with an explanatory memorandum.

[*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-6623/74]

(4) A copy each of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and Eingilsh versions) of the following Ministries for 1974-75:—

(i) Ministry of Defence.

(ii) Ministry of Steel and Mines.

[*Placed in Library. See No.* LT-6624/74]

(5) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 26 of the Bengal Finance (Sales Tax) Act, 1941, as in force in the Union territory of Delhi:—

(i) The Delhi Sales Tax (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 1974, published in Notification No. F. 4(53)/73-Fin. (G) in Delhi Gazette dated the 27th March, 1974.

(ii) Notification No. F. 4(84)/72-Fin. (Genl.) published in Delhi Gazette dated the 28th March, 1974 containing corrigendum to Notification No. F. 4(84)/72-Fin. (G) dated the 17th January, 1974.

[*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-6625/74]

12.56 hrs.

ASSENT TO BILLS

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table following four Bills passed by the Houses of Parliament during the current session and assented to by the President since a report was last made to the House on the 29th March, 1974:—

(1) The Gujarat Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1974.

(2) The Appropriation (Railways) No. 2 Bill, 1974.

(3) The Appropriation (Railways) No. 3 Bill, 1974.

(4) The Appropriation Bill, 1974.

12.56 ½ hrs.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Forty-seventh and Forty-ninth Reports

SHRI R. K. SINHA (Faizabad): I beg to present the following Reports of the Estimates Committee:—

(1) Forty-seventh Report on action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their Thirtyfifth Report on the Ministry of Industrial Development—Small Scale Industries.

[Shri R. K. Sinha]

(2) Forty-ninth Report on action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their Thirty-sixth Report on the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture)—Special Programme for Weaker Sections and Employment.

12.57 hrs.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

NINETY-NINTH REPORT

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): I beg to present the Ninety-ninth Report of the Public Accounts Committee on action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their Ninety-first Report on the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1970-71, Union Government (Civil) relating to Ministry of Supply.

12.57 ½ hrs.

COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES

SEVENTH REPORT

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE (Calcutta—North-East): I beg to present the Seventh Report of the Committee of Privileges.

12.58 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) REPORTED DECISION OF GOVT. OF ASSAM TO IMPOSE ASSAMESE LANGUAGE ON STUDENTS BELONGING TO LINGUISTIC MINORITIES.

SHRI NOORUL HUDA (Cachar): Sir, I would like to bring before you and before the House one important matter concerning the fate of the linguistic minorities in the State of Assam. Recently the Board of Secondary Education, Assam, have approved a curriculum which is to be introduced from the current academic year of 1974 which, if implemented in its present form, is fraught with great danger and I fear would arouse feelings of animosity among the different linguistic minorities living in the State of Assam for decades. This curriculum is approved by the Board of Secondary Education, Assam. It clearly discriminates between those whose first language is Assamese and those whose first language is not Assamese. For example there are the Bodo people of Assam and also the Manipuri-speaking people in Assam, besides the Bengali speaking people of Assam especially in the district of Cachar where the Bengali-speaking people are 80 per cent of the total population of that district. They would be forced to learn Assamese language and would be debarred from learning Hindi language. That is the discrimination. Now this discrimination or this policy would not apply to those pupils whose first language is Assamese. The pupils of linguistic minorities in classes VIII to X in secondary schools would have to take Assamese language compulsorily as elective subject and in effect, if they take history as a subject, they would be debarred from taking geography; if they take advanced science they will be debarred from learning advanced mathematics.

13.00 hrs.

But, the Assamese language speaking pupils would not be subject to this disadvantage. So, it is a clear and blatant discrimination against the linguistic minorities in the State of Assam. That is why the linguistic minorities in Assam have, times without number, demanded from the State Government of Assam not to make Assamese language compulsory in all the schools of Assam. Also they have suggested that instead of making Assamese as a compulsory elective subject, the Assamese language should be learnt as an optional subject in the schools. We also belong to

a minority linguistic group based on Manipuri linguistic group and we have no ill-will against the Assamese language as such. That is why we always demand from the State Government of Assam not to force on the linguistic minorities in Assam to learn the Assamese language as compulsory third subject. Uptill now, the Assam Government have not responded to the demands of the linguistic minority groups such as Bengali, Bodo, Manipuri and other linguistic groups. That is why I would like to raise this important question on the floor of this House and I would ask the Prime Minister, the Home Minister and your goodself to intervene in the matter and persuade the State Government of Assam not to force the Assamese language on the linguistic minority groups and also not to debar the linguistic minority pupils from learning the Hindi language which is an officially recognised language of the Indian Union. It should also be remembered that Assam is not a strictly unilingual state because only 60 per cent of the people speak that language while the other 40 per cent of the people belong to different linguistic groups. That is why also I would seek your intervention as well as the intervention of the Home Minister and the Prime Minister to whom we have given our representations. The people of my district have represented to them. But, uptill now, we have not been favoured with any reply.

I would conclude by saying that if this policy of the State Government of Assam is implemented, then the feeling of bitterness and animosity would prevail which would lead to disastrous consequences which all the right-thinking people would like to avoid. That is why I request that the Government of India should take up the matter and persuade the State Government of Assam not to implement this proposal.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond HARBOUR) : Sir, I have written to you that about 40,000 people are demonstrating against the West Bengal Government regarding unemployment and price rise. I would request the hon. Home Minister to make a statement on this.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Bosu, you will kindly sit down. I have never permitted you. I did not call you. Please do not do that everyday like this. I shall look into it and if I allow you, you will be given a chance. You have not got my permission. Do not do like this unless you are called.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Sir, I have written to you about this.

MR. SPEAKER: Without your being called, do not do it like this. This matter has been pending since last week and because Shri Huda approached me, I have allowed him.

(ii) Report Acute shortage of Foodgrants in West Bengal

SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE (Basirhat) : Sir, there is acute food shortage in West Bengal. As you know, the Government of West Bengal have been urging upon the Central Government for supply of adequate foodgrains to the State. Sir, you know what sacrifice West Bengal made for the cause of India. In 1947 when we became free only 2.31 lakh acres of land were under jute cultivation. West Bengal changed the crop pattern and today as much as 11.77 lakh acres of land are under jute cultivation. All this diversification was at the expenses of paddy which is a staple food in West Bengal. All this money was earned for the benefit of India but West Bengal has not been compensated for the sacrifice.

Sir, West Bengal is a land of refugees Twenty per cent of the total population has come from erstwhile East Pakistan. Another twenty per cent of the population have gone from other States of India. To feed them should have been responsibility of the Central Government but Centre has taken no responsibility for feeding them. Sir, some areas in West Bengal are covered under statutory rationing system. The implications of this system are that anyone living in these areas can go to the court and enforce the obligation to feed them.

[Shri A.K.M. Ishaque]

The West Bengal Government do require food to feed these people but the demand made by the West Bengal Government has not been met so far. We, the Members of Parliament, belonging to the Congress Party saw the Food Minister the other day to make a demand for food but only an increased amount of 12,000 tonnes of foodgrains per month was given. Sir, as a result of this food shortage the political party, to which a proper burial was given in the sacred soil over there, is again trying to come up taking advantage of this food shortage. Only yesterday they wanted to reintroduce the politics of violence in the State and set Court houses on fire. So, I am making an appeal to the Central Government to have a look at West Bengal and supply foodgrains on an emergency basis so that the political party which believes in politics of violence does not come up and create troubles.

13.09 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1974-75—*contd.*

MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS—*Contd.*

MR. SPEAKER: Now, we resume the discussion on the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs. The time taken already is 3 hours 40 minutes. The balance of time is 1 hour 20 minutes. What time does the hon. Minister require?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE): About 40 minutes.

MR. SPEAKER: So, about an hour is available for other Members. Shri Chandrika Prasad.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): Would you give me some other time?

MR. SPEAKER: Let him please not do it like this every time. These things come to me in my Chamber and I decide them there; I do not commit myself here. So, he should not ask 'Will you do it or not?' The hon. Member is a very learned gentleman.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: (Diamond Harbour): It should not be our idea to come and worry you every day in the morning.

MR. SPEAKER: These things should come to me duly in writing.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I agree that requests should be in writing. I always prefer to write to you; unless it is a very important matter on which I must come and see you, which may be once in two months. But my request to your good self, Sir, would be that when we write to you, you should consider it on merits...

MR. SPEAKER: I shall ask him to sit in my Chair one day and ask him to reply to the Members. I shall try that.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Why do you want to inflict such punishment on me?

MR. SPEAKER: I shall ask him to reply to Members. I shall ask him to occupy my Chair and then ask the Members to enquire from him 'why not this? Why not this?'

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Only during inter-session period I can sit on the Chair.

13.13 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

श्री चन्द्रिका प्रसाद (बलिया) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय इस मंत्रालय की अनुदानों की मांगों का समर्थन करते हुए कुछ बातें आप के सामने रखना चाहता हूं। इस मंत्रालय के द्वारा उपेक्षित और पिछड़े आंचल, हिन्दी भाषा और गरीबों के साथ जितना न्याय होना चाहिए था, वह नहीं हुआ। आप इलैक्शन कमीशन की बात को लेलें। उत्तर प्रदेश की पूर्वी भाग नदियों से घिरा हुआ है। जब उस क्षेत्र का परिसीमन हो रहा था,

हम ने इलैक्शन कमीशन से कहा कि उस क्षेत्र की आबादी 18 लाख है, जिस में 10 लाख की आबादी से मैं चुन-कर आता हूं, बाकी आठ लाख की आबादी को दो हिस्सों में बांट दिया गया है। हमारे क्षेत्र में 8 एम०एल० ए० क्षेत्र हैं, जिनमें से पांच मेरे नीचे आते हैं और बाकी तीन में से दो को देवरिया के साथ और एक को आजमगढ़ के साथ जोड़ दिया गया है। मेरा कहना था कि इन क्षेत्रों को या तो गाजीपुर के साथ मिलाये या देवरिया के साथ मिलाय, इन को दो भागों में न बांटें। इस तरह बांटने से इन क्षेत्रों की उपेक्षा होती है तथा गंगा और घाघरा के कटान को देखते हुए जनता के साथ ठीक प्रकार से सम्पर्क नहीं रह पाता है। लेकिन हमारे सुझाव पर ध्यान नहीं दिया गया। इस लिए मैं चाहूंगा कि परिसीमन के समय कम से कम पिछड़े और उपेक्षित इलाकों की तरफ विशेष ध्यान दिया जाये, दफ्तर के कहने पर ही निर्भर नहीं रहना चाहिए।

हमारे बहुत से विरोधी साथी कहते हैं कि पिछला चुनाव ठीक से नहीं हुआ। चुनाव ठीक क्यों नहीं हुआ, इसका कारण यह है कि हमारे विरोधियों में जो प्रति-क्रियावादी शक्तियां हैं, उन्होंने जनता को मत डालने में बाधा डालने की कोशिश की। मैंने इस सम्बन्ध में इलैक्शन कमीशन को टेलीग्राम भी दिया था—जिसमें मैंने उन को सूचित किया था कि इन शक्तियों द्वारा हमारे क्षेत्र की जनता को वोट नहीं डालने दिया जायेगा। मैंने कुछ इस्टैन्सेज भी दिये थे, उन जगहों और पोलिंग स्टेशनों के नाम भी दिये थे जहां के सामन्तवादी और प्रतिक्रियावादी लोग वोट नहीं डालने देंगे। लेकिन उसके बाद भी इलैक्शन कमीशन ने कोई व्यवस्था नहीं की। स्टेट गवर्नमैंट भी गरीबों के वोट डलवाने में सफल नहीं हो सकी, उन्होंने इसमें कुछ नहीं किया। इसलिए मैं चाहता हूं कि इलैक्शन कमीशन को इतना शक्तिवान बनाया जाये कि इलैक्शन के समय इलैक्शन कमीशन स्टेट गवर्नमैंट की मशीनरी को न मांगे, बल्कि चुनाव के वक्त जो अधिकारी काम करते हैं, उनकी सारी जवाबदेही इलैक्शन कमीशन के हाथ में रहे, उन के करेक्टर रोल लिखना, उन के काम को देखना, नीचे से ऊपर तक सारा काम इलैक्शन कमीशन के हाथ में हो।

वोटर्स की जो वोटर लिस्ट बनाई जाती है उस में गरीबों के नाम छोड़ दिये जाते हैं। और एक परिवार में दस सदस्य हैं तो केवल एक का ही नाम वोटर लिस्ट में लिख लिया जाता है, बाकियों को छोड़ दिया जाता है। जब कि सामन्तों लोगों के परिवार में यदि दस आदमी हैं तो 100 आदमियों के नाम दे दिये जाते हैं। उनमें नाबालिग लड़कों के नाम, फर्जी नाम भर दिय जाते हैं—इस तरह की धांधली होती है। जहां पर लोग कम पढ़े लिखे हैं, ज्यादा गरीब हैं, वहां इलैक्शन कमीशन सही चुनाव कराने में असफल रहा है। चुनाव के दौरान भी ऐसी घटनाएं हुईं—15-20 पोलिंग बूथ्स पर उन सामन्ती लोगों ने कब्जा कर लिया। हमारे पोलिंग एजेंटों को मार कर निकाल दिया, हमारे वर्कर्स को पीट कर भगा दिया, उस के बाद खुद वहां बैठ कर अपने उम्मीदवार के पक्ष में वोट डलवाये। अफसरों को बिल्कुल बेकाबू कर दिया, वे लोग कुछ नहीं कर सके। मैंने अपने टेलीग्राम में इन सब बातों का जिक्र किया था। मैं चाहता हूं कि इस तरह की गुण्डागर्दी के खिलाफ जांच बैठाई जाये और जिन उम्मीदवारों ने इस तरह की बदमाशी की है, उन को डिबार किया जाय। जिन गरीब हरिजनों को पीटा गया है, वोट नहीं डालने दिया गया है उन को ऐसे लोगों से मुआवजा दिलाया जाये या सरकार खुद मुआवजा दे। ऐसे उम्मीदवारों को 6 वर्ष के लिए डिबार किया जाय। मैं चाहता हूं कि इलैक्शन कमीशन इन घटनाओं के बारे में जांच कराए और हमें उस जांच से अवगत कराये।

कम्पनी ला बोर्ड में भी हमारे गरीबों के साथ उपेक्षा की गई है; ऐसी व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए कि जो भी कम्पनी बने उस में मजदूरों और कर्मचरियों के प्रतिनिधियों को डायरेक्टर बनाया जाये, उन को भी उन कम्पनियों का शेयर-होल्डर बनाया जाये, उन की तमाम सुविधाओं, उन के रहन-सहन के लिए मकान, दवा-दारु, बच्चों की शिक्षा का प्रबन्ध किया जाये। जो भी कम्पनी रजिस्टर हो, वह पहले इन सुविधाओं की व्यवस्था करे तब उस को रजिस्टर किया जाये।

पिछले चुनावों में आप ने देखा कि कांग्रेस सत्तारूढ़ दल होते हुए भी अपने वोटरों से वोट नहीं डलवा सकी—इस काम में हमारा कमीशन विफल रहा है। उन क्षेत्रों

[श्री चन्द्रिका प्रसाद मंडल]

में जहां विरोधी डल के एम०एल०ए० होते हैं, वहां पार्लियमेंट के मेम्बरों की मीटिंग में नहीं बुलाया जाता। जब वहां चुनाव के सम्बन्ध में कोई कार्यक्रम बनाया जाता है, पोलिंग स्टेशन बनाने के बारे में, वोटर्स लिस्ट बनाने के बारे में स्टेट की मशीनरी एम०एल०ए० से इतनी प्रभावित होती है कि वह संसद सदस्यों की उपेक्षा करती है। यह काम इलैक्शन कमीशन के मातहत होना चाहिए, उन पर नहीं छोड़ना चाहिए। इस का नतीजा यह होता है कि जहां विरोधी एम०एल०ए० यह समझता है कि उस गांव से उस को वोट नहीं मिलेंगे तो उस का पोलिंग बूथ चार मील की दूरी पर बनवाता है, जिस से कि वोटर वहां पहुंच ही न सके और जहां उसे उम्मीद होती है, वहां का पोलिंग बूथ उसी गांव में बना दिया जाता है। मैं चाहता हूं कि हरिजनों के लिए उन के गांव में ही पोलिंग बूथ बनाया जाना चाहिए, ताकि उन को वोट डालने में मारा-पीटा या डराया न जा सके।

आज हमारे यहां जो नये लड़के वकील बन कर आते हैं उन की स्थिति बहुत खराब है। उन की पढ़ाई-लिखाई पर जितना समय और धन लगता है, उस के साहब से उन की आमदनी 50 रुपये महावार भी नहीं हो पाती। लेकिन जो सीनियर वकील हैं, वे महीने में इतना अधिक कमाते हैं कि उन के पास समय ही नहीं रहता। हमारे कुछ साथियों ने कहा कि जूनियर वकीलों को स्टाइपैण्ड दिया जाये, आप स्टाइपैण्ड दें या न दें, लेकिन जिस तरह से अन्य स्थानों पर आप सीलिंग लगा रहे हैं, इसी तरह से सीनियर वकीलों पर भी कुछ सीलिंग लगना चाहिए। यह भी कहा गया है कि इन का एप्रैन्टिसशिप पीरियड बढ़ा दिया जाये—लेकिन जो पिछले क्षेत्रों के लड़के वकील बन कर आते हैं, इससे उन के लिए समय बढ़ जायेगा और उन पर बहुत ज्यादा आर्थिक बोझ पड़ेगा। मैं चाहता हूं कि या तो सरकार उन को स्टाइपैण्ड दे या उन को सीनीयर वकीलों के साथ लगा दिया जाये, ताकि सीनियर वकीलों की आमदनी का कुछ हिस्सा उन को भी मिल सके। दो-तीन वर्ष तक उन के साथ काम करने से उन का खर्चा भी निकल सकेगा और उन को अनुभव हो जाने के बाद अपने पैरों पर खड़े होने का अवसर मिलेगा।

पूर्वी जिलों में, जो गरीबों का इलाका है, वहां जुडीशियल मैजिस्ट्रेट या दूसरे मैजिस्ट्रेट समय पर नहीं बैठते हैं। गरीब आदमी अपने गांव से पैदल चल कर या बस का किराया खर्च कर के कचहरी में आता है, लेकिन हर रोज वहां तारीख पड़ जाती है। तारीख पड़ने की भी कोई सीमा होनी चाहिए। इसके बारे में सीमा तय किय जाने के बाद उस पर सख्ती से अमल किया जाये। अगर यही न्याय का तरीका रहा तो उनको न्याय नहीं मिल सकेगा और न्याय महंगा पड़ेगा। इसका मुख्य कारण यह है कि देहातों से उनको आना पड़ता है, दस बीस बार उनकी तारीखें बढ़ती हैं जिससे उनको वकीलों को फीस ज्यादा देनी पड़ती है, उनको खर्चा ज्यादा करना पड़ता है और इसमें उनका समय भी बर्बाद होता है, वह अपनी खेती भी नहीं कर सकते हैं। इसलिए मेरा निवदन है कि यह निश्चित किया जाये कि कितनी पेशियों में मुकदमा तय हो जायगा। इस बात पर जरूर ध्यान दिया जाये।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, हमारा राज भाषा आयोग जो बना उसमें हिन्दी की बहुत उपेक्षा की गई। हिन्दी प्रदेशों में अंग्रेजी की कानूनी किताबों का ट्रांसलेशन करके देने की बात कही गई थी लेकिन राजभाषा इस काम को नहीं कर पाया। राजभाषा आयोग में एक समन्वय समिति है जिसका चेयरमैन वही होता है जोकि आयोग का चैयरमन है। मेम्बरों में से एक मेम्बर सेक्रेटरी होता है। उस समिति के कार्यों में अनुवाद के अलावा हिन्दी की विधि शब्दावली में एकरूपता बनाये रखना और प्रभावकारी समन्वय सुनिश्चित करना भी शामिल है। प्रारूपण में प्रशिक्षण देने की स्कीम के अंतगत 1972 के दौरान राजस्थान सरकार ने एक अधिकारी दिया, 1973 में मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने दिया लेकिन यू०पी० और बिहार का नम्बर कब आयेगा, यह समझ में नही आता।

इसी प्रकार से संविधान का हर भाषा में अनुवाद कराने की बात कही गई थी। और भाषाओं में तो अनुवाद हो गया है लेकिन भोजपुरी भाषा, जिसको 8 करोड़ लोग बोलते हैं उसकी उपेक्षा की गई है। हमारे देहात की झोंपड़ियों में रामायण की पुस्तक रहती है और वहां पर चौपाइयों का जैसा अर्थ वे लोग लगाते हैं वैसा बड़े बड़े विद्वान भी नहीं लगा सकते हैं।

सी प्रकार यदि संविधान का भोजपुरी भाषा में अनुवाद भी मिल जाये तो वह लोग भी संविधान के प्रति अपनी जवाबदेही को पूरी तरह से समझ सकेंगे।

इसी के साथ राज भाषा आयोग में सभी भाषाओं के प्रतिनिधि रखे गये हैं लेकिन भोजपुरी भाषा का कोई प्रतिनिधि नहीं रखा गया है उसमें हिन्दी के 5 प्रतिनिधि रखे गये हैं। भोजपुरी को आप आफिशियल लैंग्वज मानें या न मानें, इस पर मैं झगड़ा नहीं करना चाहता लेकिन हिन्दी के 5 प्रतिनिधियों में से एक भोजपुरी भाषा का प्रतिनिधि रख दें तो भोजपुरी भाषा के प्रति जो उपेक्षा बरती गयी है उसका निराकरण हो सकेगा। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इन मांगों का समर्थन करता हूं।

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajpur): Sir, are you considering my notice under rule 377?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have carefully gone through the report of the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs, and I would like to pinpoint the attention of the House to some specific aspects of the functioning of the Ministry. At the very outset, I would like to say something regarding the functioning of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission and the responsibilities that are cast on the Government by the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1962. You may recall that in this very House, I had moved a privilege motion against the Minister of Law, Justice and Company Affairs on the ground that though section 62 of the MRTP Act makes it incumbent on the Government that all the MRTP Commission reports which are submitted the Government, whether they are administration reports or whether they are reports regarding individual cases referred to the MRTP Houses of Parliament. Sir, on that occasion, the Minister concerned had owned the mistake, expressed regret and assured this House that all the reports, administrative reports as well as the individual reports, will be placed before both Houses of Parliament. I am constrained to find that even on the basis of the report that has been presented to us, only the administrative report from 1st January, 1972 up to 31st December, 1972 has been submitted. As far as the individual reports are concerned, there are a large number of reports which have still not been submitted in spite of the specific assurances given by the hon. Minister on the floor of this House. If the individual reports do not come before the House, the House does not get the opportunity to discuss some of the basic aspects in relation to the policy of destroying or curbing the monopolies in the country. As a result of that some of the policies are just neglected by lapse. Therefore when the Minister replies to the debate he should try to give information to the House: how many individual cases are there on which reports are still awaited?

The Hindustan Lever case was referred to the MRTP Commission. They wanted a licence to be given to Hindustan Lever for the manufacture of sodium tripoliphosphate for the production of non-soapy detergents. Many of us pointed out that giving such exclusive privileged position to Hindustan Lever negates the general policy of the Government who professedly say that they do not want to encourage monopolies, particularly foreign monopolies. It is not clear whether a decision has been taken but news appeared in the Press that the MRTP commission had recommended certain restrictions in this matter and that subject to to certain conditions the Hindustan Lever might be given licence for manufacturing this product. When the question was raised here we were told that they have taken into account all the applications and certain restrictions were being put on Hindustan Lever. I have a list of entrepreneurs who had applied for manufacturng this product Ballapur Strawboards, DCM Chemicals, Hindustan Copper Corporation, Bharat Commercial Industries, Ltd., Tata Mills Ltd, etc. While all these persons applied, they picked up one particular entrepreneur and offered him the

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monopoly. I concede that the Minister is going to insist upon certain restrictions. Inspite of that the fact remains that Hindustan Lever had been given a privileged position. The employees of Hindustan Lever had already given strike notice. The behaviour of Hindustan Lever management towards the working class is not cordial at all. Therefore, I demand that the hon. Minister should come forward with necessary clarifications.

It is interesting to find that almost all the recommendations of the MRTP Commission are majority recommendations. There is a majority; there is a minority. The majority in almost every case is the same two members; the minority is the same one member. They must examine why it is so.

I shall now refer to the failure of the Government to set up a separate labour bench in the Supreme Court. It is true it is not the direct responsibility of the Government. It is the Chief Justice who has to take a decision. A number of vacancies have not been filled up. As a result of that the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court has found it difficult to constitute a separate labour bench of the Supreme Court. The hon. Minister was once a trade unionist and he will realise how many cases of labour relating to bonus, retrenchment and other things are pending. It has been a consistent complaint of almost all the central trade union organisations in the country that because a separate labour bench has not been constituted in the Supreme Court, a large number of labour cases are pending. Therefore, I hope the Minister will make the necessary statement in this connection.

I would like to say a word about the electoral reforms and the manner in which elections are conducted in our country. I would like to make a constructive proposal and I hope the Ministry will examine that in depth and give its proper attention to this. It is not because the results have gone against the opposition parties that I am putting forward this view. We have been putting forward this view even when we have gained a large number of seats in different Legislatures. Unfortunately, our electoral system is so devised that the seats that are gained by various political parties do not reflect the relative strength of the political parties in terms of the votes. The party even when it has 32 per cent of the votes, continues to rule and head the Government, and therefore, most of the Governments in effect are minority Governments in terms of the sanction and the mandate of the people. I am not one among those irresponsible people who feel that the single-member constituency system must be scrapped because historically the single-member constituency concept has been evolved to provide stability to the political system in the country. My party has been one among those who have always stood for single-member constituencies because we do not want political instability in the country. If there is cumulative vote system and if it is mere proportional representation, very often, the situation that existed in France may be created in our country, and probably, every month, there will be different coalition Governments that will be cropping up. I do not want political instability in the country. I would like the single-member constituency system to continue. But, at the same time, as in Austria and as in Germany, we might devise a new pattern of elections and new electoral system, in which there will be one set of candidates that will be directly elected by direct vote in single-member constituencies and in addition to that, by taking the entire vote of the political parties, some proportional representation may be given in addition to those who are directly elected. In Austria and Germany, what happens? There are a number of candidates who are directly elected to the legislature and in addition to that, based on the votes polled by the various parties, some representation is given.

The Social Democratic Party of Germany is told 'You have polled so much votes and in addition to the candidates

who are directly elected to the Parliament, on the basis of the votes polled, you can send 25 or 30 or 40 representatives to Parliament. There are two advantages. Firstly, the votes polled by the party will be adequately reflected and in addition to that, when the representation is given only on the basis of the votes polled, it is left to the free choice of the political parties to choose the best of talented men from their parties and send them to Parliament. If that happens, not only there will be a more democratic pattern in the Parliament and State Legislatures, but even the quality of debates and the quality of work in Parliament and the State Legislatures might improve. There are experts in various political parties, but because they are not connected with mass movements and field work, and probably they are not at all backed up by certain caste and communal equations, it is not possible for them to get elected to Parliament and State Legislatures. But if they come from the quota allotted to the political parties, some of the experts in various political parties, whether they belong to the ruling party or to the opposition parties, can be nominated to the State Legislatures and Parliament, and through them, the quality of the debates and the Committee work can improve. This is a constructive suggestion that I would like to make in this debate.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This is a good suggestion to end with. It is such a good suggestion that you will only be diluting it by going further.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I would make other suggestions.

MR. DEPUTY-SEPEAKER : You cannot make a better one.

PROF MADHU DANDAVATE : I am not one among those who attribute the entire electoral victory of the ruling party merely to some of the unfair practices that have taken place. They are marginal aspects, but even then, they are very important. For instance, in West Bengal, there were attacks on the booths with guns and hand-grenades, and therefore, our party candidate had to withdraw from the Gaigate constituency and well lodged a complaint with the Election Commission. These matters must be taken up urgently.

Within one minute, I will make a cursory reference to two points. One aspect is, I would just like to quote, without going into the details, a High Court judgement in a petition filed by certain shareholders of the National Rayon Corporation Limited. Sir, a number of times, myself and my colleague Mr. Madhu Limaye have raised this issue of National Rayon Corporation Limited and the manipulations made by certain groups of this Corporation and we wanted the Company Law Board to take a very firm decision. I will conclude with this point because this is the best point, and as per your advice, one should end with the best point. Here are the strictures that have been passed by the High Court on the functioning of the Company Law Board

Mr. Justice Ray said:

> "However, before passing orders on the question, I must mention that during the hearing of the interim application for injunction before my brother Judge Mukhi, the learned Judge had by his order dated 8th October 1973 directed the Company Law Board to deal with and disposed of the petition of the company under section 408(5) of the Companies Act for the confirmation of the newly elected Directors. I was told at the hearing that although the hearing of the said petition started before me, the Company Law Board, for the reasons best known to it, had failed to carry out the said directions. If the Company Law Board had carried out the said directions of this Court and given its decision on the said petition before the hearing of this petition started, a great deal of arguments advanced

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at the hearing of this petition and consequently public time and money would have been saved. This Court is distressed to find a high-powered and responsible body like the Company Law Board should not have cared to carry out the said directions of this court till this day. The net result, therefore, is that the petition is dismissed."

I do not want to comment on it. The quotation I have read is the best criticism of the Company Law Board.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI (Jamshedpur) : Sir, I rise to suuport the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs. I have gone through this report and have a few suggestions to make. Firstly, about the legal aid which is under consideration of the Law Ministry since long, it should be given the shape of an Act without further delay. It should be a foolproof Act so that it actually goes to the needy in real sense and not in the pockets of lawyers or court clerks.

It is good that reservations for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes have been made, but for the backward classes and Vishwakarmas, the reservations should also be made. The visit of the USSR Delegation led by its Minister of Justice and the Chief Justice of German Democratic Republic appears to be very significant. We should make laws in line with these countries which would help us in future.

I am of the opinion that the post of Solicitor General and Additional Solicitor General should be abolished, since we have got an Attorney General, Advocate General, Government Advocates, etc., who are quite capable of tackling any legal matter. The posts of Solicitor General and Additional Solicitor General are just a show. We can save lakhs of rupees by abolishing these posts which may be spent on giving legal aid to the poor.

The Indian Contract Act, 1872 should be amended. It has become very old and is not in line with the present changing circumstances of the country. Government public sector plants lose almost all the cases either in arbitration or in civil courts, though they have their own agreement with the contractors. The law should be so amended that the Government could recover all losses and damage done by the high officials of public sector plants due to their negligence or ill-advice of their subordinates or rescinding contracts illegally and losing the cases in the High Court and Supreme Court, though on duty. The main cause is their high-headedness. In such cases, I suggest that their movable and immovable properties should be confiscated. Then alone they would come to their senses and check such huge losses to the public sector plants. Some officers, while in office, do some wrong things and the Government is put to heavy losses due to such wrongful acts. But when the officers go away or retire, the Government cannot do anything about it at a later stage. Though there are so many cases within my knowledge, I will cite only one. The Chief Engineer of Bhilai Steel Plant illegally rescinded a contract in the year 1963 and the contractor was paid a huge amount of lakhs of rupees as compensation in the year 1968, through Calcutta High Court. Yet, the same Chief Engineer was promoted as the Managing Director of the Hindustan Construction Company, a public sector company having its Head office in Calcutta.

I have only one point to make regarding the elections. The election law should be amended that the elections to the Legislative Assembly and the Lok Sabha would be held simultaneously, either by advancing the dates of the Assembly elections or postponing the date of the Lok Sabha elections.

Coming to the production of books in different languages, all the law books, including the Constitution of India, should be translated in all the Indian languages mentioned in the Eighth Schedule so that

the ordinary persons can understand the law of the country and do not get cheated by the professional lawyers.

The Notary Public in Bihar are very few number and they are generally big practising lawyers from the time of the British Raj. They are generally not available even at their residences at any time. During the day time, of course, they have no time for this type of work. There are also no Oath Commissioners in the courts, and the Magistrates have no time generally for this because they have to attend to their other important assignments. So, I would suggest that every court, block office and panchayat office should have one Notary. Incidentally, this would also give opportunity to lakhs of educated youth in the country who now indulge in unlawful acts.

Coming to the Indian Railways Act, which was amended only last year, I would like to say that the Security Officers are not acting according to the law. They are interpreting it in different ways. In one of the meetings in the South Eastern Railway at Kharagpur I asked the Security Officer, who is of the rank of Superintendent of Police, the number of cases in which fish-plates were removed and the punishment meted out to such people. The interpretation of the Security Officer was that since the removal of the fish plates was with the intention of stealing, it does not amount to sabotage. This shows that they are not strictly adhering to the laws which we make here. These things should be looked into and further amendments should be made to the Indian Penal Code at the earliest to maintain law and order in the country.

I now come to the Delhi Gurudwara Act. The Delhi Gurudwara Act was passed by this House some time in December 1971. But till today no elections have been held, and communal parties like Akali Dal are making it a political issue against the Government by creating feeling amongst the innocent Sikhs. The Gurudwara elections should be held immediately.

The Akalis are creating trouble in Nanded also—Gurudwara Board Takhat Sachkhand Hazur Saheb Abchal Nagar, Nanded, Maharashtra, of which I am the only elected Sikh member from Parliament. Such Acts should immediately be introduced in the Lok Sabha during this Session and passed relating to Gurudwara Board Takhat Sachkhand Hazur Saheb Abchal Nagar, Nanded, Maharashtra, here innocent Sikhs are provoked by the Akali party and there are repeated clashes between the local Sikhs and the Gurudwara Board controlled by Akali party from Amritsar, which is a communal party.

I remember, on 6-10-1973, on Dusserah day when I was to attend the Nanded Gurudwara Board's meeting as the only Sikh elected member from Parliament, firing took place and the special officer was shot at, injuring him seriously, in the Gurudwara premises.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I do not know how relevant it is here. You are going too far into the details, about administration of a particular Act. The only relevancy here is that the Act should be Amended. What this group did or that group did is not relevant here.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI : I suggest, Sir, that such Act should be passed in respect of Patna Harimander Saheb also.

I now come to the Administrator Generals' Act. This Act came into force some time in 1913 just to take of properties of the deceased and hand them over when the legal heir comes and claims them. But, Sir, in Bihar this Act is abused. I know about this. The Administrator General takes the letter of administration from the High Court; then takes over the property and instead of returning to the legal heirs, sells away the property, and even the legal heirs does not get even a single

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paisa. I know about it. Therefore, the Administrator Generals' Act should also be amended, and they should be warned about all these malpractices.

With these words, I support the Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs.

SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH (Sidhi): While taking part in the debate on the Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs, I would like to place a few points before the Government for their consideration.

I feel that law, in order to be meaningful, has to be based on the needs of the nation; in other words, the needs of the nation force the growth of the law. And in this context I would like to point out that, during the last year, this nation witnessed a strange situation where our law failed to have a provision fitting enough for that. I am referring to the matter where more than 400 dacoits in Madhya Pradesh surrendered willingly before the authorities; in that case I feel that our law failed merely because our law does not, at the present moment, contain within itself one of the precepts that were given to this country by Manu, the ancient giver of law. In this, the Great Manu says that the judge and the seeker of justice are both under an equal obligation to seek the truth and provide justice and in case, any of these two fail in this, the onus of not providing justice sits equally on both, not only the seeker of justice but also the dispenser of justice.

We have a very anomalous situation today wherein wherever a person is brought before a Judge, he takes recourse to twisting of truth, doctoring of evidence because that is the only way-out wherein he can escape the harshness of the law.

Manu's another ancient precept is *Prayaschit* and *Paschatap* both of which, unfortunately, have no place at all in our present system of law. So, in order that these ancient precepts be included in our present legal system, and also because, if this was done, there would be the following things which would happen, I make the following suggestions.

If a legal base is laid for the *Paschatap* and *Prayaschit* elements in human nature without any hindrance by authorities having contradictory interests, firstly, it will do away with the legal objections as identification, etc and giving undue preference to such accused against the ordinary provisions of law and thus become guilty of discrimination. It would also provide an alternative machinery for investigation making for better recovery and doing away with the prejudice against the Police so vehemently expressed by Justice Mulla, and felt rightly and wrongly by the general public.

It will also encourage love for truth in criminal trials and provide an incentive to conscientious lawyers to encourage truth in the accused person, who is after all the best witness about himself.

These provisions, if included in our legal system, are more in keeping with love for truth which is a basic concept of the Indian society and happens to be subdued at the present for want of State patronage and which is rather warped under the encouragement of falsehood of a foreign system of law adopted in this country.

These provisions will encourage good behaviour not only during trial but after conviction also and shall provide the basis for an order under Sections 401 and 402 of the Criminal Procedure Code which is rather arbitrary.

It will also give recognition to the growing belief in criminal psychology that most of the criminals are overpowered by an irresistible impulse at the time of committing an offence which may in some cases be a sort of a disease.

It will also encourage criminals to improve morally and have recourse to truth in trial and tend to remove the atmosphere of falsehood which happens to plague our courts. In drder to achieve this, I suggest that in Section 4, another section may be added in the Cr. P.C. by providing for a definition of a 'repentant accused' as one, who, out of remorse or any motive, confesses to his guilt and is prepared to face the consequences. After Section 251A Cr. P.C. another Section, 251B, be added so that in case of repentant accused is charged with an offence punishable with life imprisonment or death or a sentence of more than seven years, wants to makes a confession of his guilt, he may go to any Judicial Magistrate of First Class and make a confession. In that case, the accused shall be sent to the jail lock-up. The Magistrate shall then proceed to make an investigation of the case and shall follow all the procedure prescribed for police investigation. After that investigation, the same Magistrate shall hold an inquiry of the case and if he is satisfied that the accused is repentant, he shall send the accused with the report to the Sessions Judge. If in his opinion the accused is not a repentant accused, the Magistrate shall commit him to his trial.

The Sessions Judge, after examining the accused, shall pass such sentence according to the law if he finds the accused to be repentant, but, in no case, shall he pass a sentence of death. Except that, he can pass any sentence according to law considering the circumstances of the whole case. While passing the sentence he will also recommend the concession to the Government which the Government may adopt under Section 402 Cr. P.C.

In Sections 401 and 402 Cr. P.C. a proviso may be added that in passing such orders, the Government shall also take into account the conduct of the accused during trial and his subsequent conduct in the jail and outside it. The same proviso may be added in Section 562 Cr. P.C., Probation of First Offenders Act. So far, under the present law, the accused can get this benefit in spite of his attitude to truth during the trial.

All that I seek in placing these points before the Government is that they should consider these points in view of what has happened last year in the country and also in view of the fact that it is time that our law which has been a foreign graft should start to take on the aspects of our national culture.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Maya Thevar—not here.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): All that I wanted to say is—I am the second speaker and I should not lose sight of that fact—that the Election Commission headed by one man who is a super-annuated civil servant behaves in a manner as if it is the spokesman of the Government. I have written a letter about, if I remember, two months ago about the Prime Minister's tour and travels, the cost of which are entirely borne by the State Exchequer—whether that should be taken into account while the election expenses details are furnished. I sent him a reminder. I spoke to him over the telephone and ultimately I spoke to Mr. Gokhale and finally I got a reply which is next to nothing. I got that reply only day before yesterday.

Now, he refers to what Mr. Mirdha had said, may be two years ago, in a Consultative Committee meeting. What was the reply from the Deputy Secretary in regard to the Blue Book? Now I want to ask. Is this Election Commissioner a subordinate to the Home Ministry? Is he guided by the Government? Is a Member of Parliament not entitled to get a clear and categorical reply from the Election Commissioner? If I had the powers, I would have removed him forthwith because he is absolutely a Government spokesman and his job is to see to the interests of the Prime Minister and the ruling Party people. This is a very shameful thing. I want the hon. Minister to place it on record.

[Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu]

Then, secondly, this Monopolies Commission Chairman and other Members had passed adverse comments as to the fact that the Government refer such cases to them which are not too inconvenient for the Government but in cases where they feel they will be embarrassed, in cases which will be inconvenient to them, the Government always bypass the Commission. Here, I would like to ask Mr. Gokhale as to why then he should maintain this expensive gadjet, namely, the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission. We have seen the results of its last year's functioning, that Shri Gokhale's party and his leader, the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi had been for the monopolists all the time and that is why their growth has been so much during the last few years. Imagine when your industrial production, the annual growth rate is next to nothing—it may be 1 or 2 per cent—how is it that the Monopoly houses have been able to add to their assets and wealth even to the extent of 20 per cent? Take for example, Mafatlals.

14 hrs.

Sir, they don't bother to study all these things. I want the hon. Minister to give us a categorical reply to all the points raised by me. I want to know as to what he is doing with regard to the publicised comments of the Chairman of the Monopolies Commission and also with regard to the comments made by certain Members. I want him to tell us how long this sort of superannuated, subservient, Election Commissioner is going to remain like this. They are there, with the avowed appearance of an impartial or quasi-judicial body. If you ask me it is nothing better than **

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The word is unparliamentary that will not go on record.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : He is doing everything to further the cause of the ruling party and the Prime Minister, who have given him his job. Another carrot is perhaps dangling before him after that; therefore he is doing this. This is a disgusting affair.

Sir, kindly reserve your ruling about that . . .

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The word by itself is not unparliamentary, but in the context in which it was used, it is unparliamentary. Therefore it will not go on record. The hon. Minister

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Members for having participated in the Debate and for having made some very useful suggestions and also for having made some criticisms which are very useful.

Sir, the Debate concerns four Departments which are under the control of this Ministry. They are : The Department of Company Affairs, the Department of Legal Affairs, the Legislative Department and the Department of Justice.

The Debate has covered a wide range of topics and there has been certain amount of overlapping in the points by different hon. Members. I thought that it would be more appropriate if I dealt with those topics without referring to which Member made which point so that all the points could be covered as far as possible.

I would first go to the subject of Company Affairs. The other day a reference was made to the existing Companies Act. Now, as hon. Members are aware, wide-ranging and if I may say so, even drastic amendments to the Companies Act were proposed and these have been referred to a Joint Committee. That Committee has made certain changes. And a Bill framed on the basis of the recommendations of the Joint Committee has already been accepted by the Government. Sir, I have already given notice that it should be taken up in this House as soon as possible. In

**Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

fact, I have suggested that it should be taken into consideration in this session itself, time permitting. The amendments cover a very large field. I would like to indicate that the amendments which are now recommended by the Joint Committee have their impact in some very vital matters bearing on the functioning of the Monopilies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act also. Particularly in the matter of what would be the concept of same management because in the new amended or proposed Bill the term, same management, is redefined and the definition of what is known as groups, or same management, has now been, after the Act is passed, brought within the ambit of the Companies Act and a very large number of companies would be regarded as inter-connected, which are not supposed to be interconnected under the existing Monopolies Law.

I will not dilate on this Bill because that will come in due course of time when it will be fully discussed by this House. I only hope that it will make major changes. One major change—probably Prof. Madhu Dandavate might be interested in it—because he made a reference to National Rayon, of course, in a different context to which I will come later—is with regard to the old provisions for preference shareholders. That is the situation obtaining in the National Rayon. The preference shareholders who held shares prior to a certain date were allowed, under the Articles and Memorandum of Association as existed at that time, to vote on par with the equity shareholders. That amendment has now been proposed with the result that after the Bill is passed, even those shareholders will have no right to vote.

I mention only two or three major aspects covered by the Companies Act but there are many more that have been dealt with including thir straints placed on dividends which accumulated and remained in the hands of the companies. There was a very legitimate complaint made that a very large amount of dividends remained in the hands of the companies. I would put that very roughly about Rs. 10 crores as remaining unclaimed in the hands of the companies. The complaint was that that company used this amount for its own business whereas that amount really belonged to a shareholder whose dividend it was and who, for one reason or another, had not been able to claim it. Now, this specific aspect has been dealt with in the new Companies Bill. The existing law says that within fortytwo days, the dividend warrants must be despatched. And, if a claim is not made within that period, then it remains with the company.

Now a provision is made that it will not remain with the company for its use after fortytwo days of statutory limitation is over. It would be transferred to a special account and then to fund in the hands of the Government. The Government will take the responsibility to meet the liabilities of shareholders whose dividend it is. Under the law-rightly so after the shareholders, who have not got their dividends, the creditors of the company are entitled to payment. And this money should not be used for any other purpose. These are some of the changes which have been proposed in the Companies Law. I do hope that when the Bill becomes an Act, some of the defects in the Companies Act will get removed.

A complaint was made that the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act is inadequate; it has not fulfilled fully the purpose for which it was enacted. I myself am in general agreement with this criticism. I do think that the M.R.T.P. Act requires modification. Under the Companies Act and under the M.R.T.P. Act the existing same management, interconnections, group concept etc., etc. are being covered. Even after doing this, I do concede that the M.R.T.P. Act does requrie major changes. We are contemplating major changes. As a result, we are considering re-casting the M.R.T.P. Act so that the functioning of the Monopolies Commission can become more effective

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than what it is today. As the Act stands today, it is not obligatory. May I put it this way? It is obligatory on the part of Government to form an opinion before a reference is made to the Monopolies Commission. There is a statutory duty on the Government that before a reference is made to the Monopolies Commission, it has to determine itself whether a certain case should go to the Monopolies Commission or not. There were guideliness also in the Act so to what should really be the consideration which should weigh with the Government, particularly in deciding whether a case should go to the Monopolies Commission or not.

If the facts are clear, no further investigation is required and if the idea about inter-connections is fairly clear enough so that Government can come to its own conclusion, I would like to inform the hon. Member that there are many a case where such rejections have taken place. But these things are not known. When a project is recommended by the MRTP Commission naturally it is known. But the other side of the picture is that in quite a good number of cases where facts do indicate that no further enquiry from the Commission is necessary such rejections have taken place without any reference being made to MRTP Commission. I would humbly submit that the critism that only those cases which are convenient to refer are referred and which are not convenient to refer are not referred is no tfair. As far as I have been able to see, the decision is not based on convenience. Particularly, in the case of larger houses the tendency is more to refer a case to MRTP Commission than not to refer it. Constraints with regard to immediate necessity of production in certain fields and the possibility that the Government can come to a conclusion without any further enquiry as to whether a particular licence should be granted or not are all considerations which weigh with the Government before deciding whether a matter should go before the MRTP Commission or not. I would repudiate the suggestion that considerations of convenience or inconvenience have weighed with the Government in either making a reference or not making a reference.

It was also said the other day by one hon. Member that the Government withdraws cases referred to MRTP Commission. Government has never withdrawn nor can it withdraw a single case which is referred by the Government to MRTP Commission. But when a matter had been referred to Monopolies Commission and the Commission is seized of that matter the party is forced to go to MRTP Commission because Government is not willing to give that sanction or licence unless MRTP Commission has gone into the various aspects of the project and has recommended the grant of licence. The party itself which had applied for a licence and as a result of which reference had been made to MRTP Commission goes to the Commission and says that I do not want the licence applied for and, therefore, I do not want my case be investigated. In such cases Government cannot say you wanted a licence so you must have that. These are cases in which some withdrawals have taken place. I do agree that a lot of time and money of the Commission is spent and then the party comes and say I do not want a decision because I do not want the licence. Unfortunately, all this labour, money and time gets wasted. But as hon. Members know that happens in any court. The Monopolies Commission in dealing with concentration of economic power, is an advisory body and acts semi-judicially. As in a court a party which comes for relief when it says "I do not want relief", the court cannot say, "we will thrust the same on you." The court at the most can say, "you have taken so much time, we will saddle you with costs." Therefore, all that I can think of, and it is legitimate to do, is that even in the Monopolies Act, if cases are withdrawn after some length of time without justification some provision should be made, I am not committing myself but I will give an anxious consideration, whether in such cases the parties guilty of taking so much time of the Commission and

asking for withdrawal should be saddled with costs or not.

Sir, some specific cases were referred to. Today a reference was made to the Hindustan Lever's case. It was made the other day also by one hon. Member. As is known to hon. Members, this case was referred to the Monopolies Commission, because it is a foreign majority concern. It is also known that when an application goes before the Monopolies Commission or a matter goes before that commission, the commission does not hear only that party but also hears other parties who are interested in similar projects. Reference was made to Ballarpurs and also to DCM. As far as I remember, these are the only two cases which are pending with respect to which MRTP applications were made. A third reference was made to Albert Morarji. This was a case where they had not come forward for a licence but they were objecting to the grant of licence to Hindustan Levers and others for understandable reasons from their point of view. They virtually hold a monopoly today, and they know that if new capacities are created and more production of STPP as it is briefly called is there and it is used for manufacture of synthetic detergents...

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Let the hon. Minister correct his information. They had applied for increasing the capacity from 25,000 to 50,000.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur). They wanted to expand.

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE: They did not have any MRTP proposal to expand. They went before the commission and objected that others should not be given permission. I think that even they were heard by the commission. I think DCMs and Ballapurs were also heard. All the arguments advanced by DCMs and Ballarpurs were examined in the same report about Hindustan Levers. In the case of Ballarpurs and DCMs we think that all the facts have already been collected, and the commission has already gone into the matter although in a reference made in respect of Hindustan Levers. As far as I remember, both these projects have already been cleared; So far as Ballarpur is concerned, I think it has already been cleared, and so far as the DCM is concerned, I have given approval to it, although it is pending higher sanction at a higher level. But I have no doubt that these projects also will go through.

So, the suggestion that there was any idea of favouring or giving a favourable position to Hindustan Levers is, I respectfully submit, not correct at all.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: There were complaints of gross irregularities which were pointed out. Look at what is happening at Ghaziabad today.

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE: The hon. Member did not say that.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: They were pointed out through letters and by deputations; gross irregularities were pointed out.

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE: I have not yet touched that matter. I was only dealing with a certain statement made by some other hon. Member that we wanted to prefer the Hindustan Levers as against others. I was dealing only with that point just now.

Even after this, the capacity of Hindustan Levers which is about 43 per cent will certainly diminish progressively, because the other two are coming into the picture when projects are sanctioned.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: How many items of production are in the priority sector? Has he ever cared to know these things? He has only dwelt on the legal aspect of the matter. But how many items of production are in the proiority sector for which foreign technical know-how is absolutely essential?

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE: Here, I am not dealing with the legal aspect, but I am dealing with the factual aspect. Hon.

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Members wanted the matter to be referred to the Mnopolies Commission, and rightly it was referred to that commission. I also find it very difficult because in quite a number of cases, the reports of the commission are not unanimous, and as has been rightly said, there are two views.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Always the same two against one.

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE: What can I do? If there is a judicial tribunal and if people in their conscience feel, sitting in a quasi-judicial body that they do not agree on certain matters, certainly they have the freedom to differ.

When we accept the majority report it is said that in this case the minority report ought to have been accepted. When we accept the minority report, it is said that the majority report should have been accepted. After all, the commission consists of three persons, and, therefore, it is said that the majority report should have been accepted and not the minority report. Even then, as I had occasion to say earlier, the minority reports had been given full weight before a final decision had been taken. But that is not the same thing as to say that a majority report ought not to be considered. In the case of Hindustan Levers, what was done was that the majority report, subject, of course, to all the restrictions and conditions which they had recommended, had been accepted by Government. There can be a different view in either case and in case we accept the minority report it may be said that we had preferred to accept the minority report and not go by the majority report. The Government's normal inclination would be—I would say not in all cases but in some cases—that through the majority report will give such overwhelming reasons, in spite of the fact that it is a minority report, Government must in public interest accept the minority report. But normally the inclination in the case of the recommendations of such tribunals and commissions which are quasi-judicial would be to go by the majority report and not by the minority report.

References were also made to other irregularities. I have even received letters. The hon. member met me. We have already started in section under the Companies Act. This has nothing to do with the STPP project, but about the lowering of the weight of soap, pricing policy and various other things.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Not only that. They are not producing dalda to the extent required. I would request you to depute somebody to go to Ghaziabad and see what is happening with his own eyes.

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE: That is what I am saying. An Inspection has been ordered in respect of these matters.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: If you investigate, you will find that the increase of the price of soap directly proportional to the shrinkage of the size.

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE: I do not know what I am going to find. If we find that, we will look into that. I hope the hon. member will concede this point that these are being looked into and action has been taken in respect of these things also.

There were one or two other matters. For example, some reference was made to the Metro Cinema, not today but the other day, the first day. So far as the company law is concerned, I can state that there has not been any case of controvention or violation. Even then that is not to say that the matter should not be looked into. I know that the Minister of Information & Broadcasting was also asked the same question which was put to me the other day. He has made the position clear that so far as they were concerned, they were trying to do their best and are continuing their effort to take over this concern that negotiations were under way and that they were doing their best to see that if there was any malpractice, as was alleged, it was countered.

Reference was also made, I think to the Great Eastern Hotels of Calcutta

Somebody said that there are two government directors. There are two government directors on this company. It was said that they do not see eye to eye. We are also aware of this. We are looking into it and we are trying to see that they either see eye to eye and behave themselves or we shall see that they are replaced or something else is done. It is not as if when things are brought to our notice, we will not give our attention to it and will not do the needful in the matter.

Then another thing was appointed out—this is also one of the loopholes in the MRTP Act and which needs revision; before anything else is done which might take time, there is something else which must be immediately done. I agree there. This is with regard to the inadequacy of the existing sec. 27 of the MRTP Act with regard to delinking an undertaking from big houses. I can take the House into confidence and say that I am proposing to add a new section, 27A, which will make the position abundantly clear, with the result that the Monopolies Commission will be enabled as a result of that Bill to give a scheme to effect delinking, which is a very necessary thing to do.

Reference was made also to action taken in respect of some of the Morarka companies. Now I am aware, and I am glad to tell the House that in respect of each of these companies action has been taken. For example, as a result of inspection of books of account of these companies, directors have been a pointed by Government under sec. 408 of the Conmpanies Act in respect of the following companies which are already Morarka companies: Belapur Sugar and Allied Industries, Nasik Deolali Electricity Supply company, Poona Electrical Industries, Changde Sugar Mills, W.H. Brady & Co. etc. Besides, in the case of the Belapur Sugar and Allied Industries, the Company Law Broad have ordered an investigation under section 237B. A CBI investigation is also proposed into certain aspects arising out of the inspection of these companies.

That is why I say that criticism made is also useful, not only criticism made during the course of the debate but earlier. I am very happy to say that we have not slept over this criticism and whenever occasion arose, some action has been initiated. Action has been taken as far as it was possible under the Companies Act.

In regard to section 408, what was generally said was that the powers under the Companies Act have not been fully utilised and not given effect to.

Now, section 408, the section under which the powers to appoint Government directors is there, has been used in a number of cases, and the Government directors have been appointed under the new Companies Act. I should have referred to it at that time. When the new Bill will come, power is further taken to appoint not only two but many more directors. It will be more effective than only having two Government directors on companies. In the case of National Rayon, I am aware of the judgment to which reference was made. The position is this. The Kapadias have a shareholding which is largely preference shareholding. I have dealt with the legal position and I do not want to repeat it. Now, if the Government directors are appointed in a company,—as they are in the case of National Rayon—no new directors can be added without the previous sanction of the Company Law Board. Even before the Company Law Board took any decision in the matter, the Kapadias, went to the High Court of Bombay, challenging the very validity and the vires of the provision of the Companies Act which enables the Government to appoint the directors in the company. Now, we fought,—of course, the hon. Members know that in the end we have succeeded—and the validity of the order under the provision has been upheld by the high court. If for example, the validity had not been upheld, then the proceedings of Kapadias, in respect of allowing four directors whom they were seeking to add, would have become infructuous. The Company Law Board was waiting for the high court's

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decision on the validity of this appointment. Now that the validity of the appointment has been upheld, I have no doubt that the Company Law Board will dispose of this matter very expeditiously I cannot speak for the Company Law Board because we do not give directions to the Company Law Board to decide cases this way or that way. But the very fact that the Company Law Board had earlier taken a decision to appoint two directors would lead me to think that the Company Law Board would not frustrate its earlier decision by allowing four new directors of Kapadias to come into the Board of Directors with the result that the appointment of two directors becomes useless. Ultimately we are reduced to a hopeless minority. But I would not anticipate, and this is a matter which the Company Law Board has to decide.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : What about the strictures to which I have made reference ?

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE : There were no strictures. The court said that the Company Law Board should dispose of the matter as early as possible. There was no written direction made. I am confident about it. Some remarks fell from the court that they should dispose of it. They were not aware of the fact about enquiries to be made ; naturally we do not take matters to the court which do not relate to judicial matters or deal with the vires. They were not aware that the Company Law Board was in this dilemma; when sections of the Act are struck down we are nowhere. We cannot do anything. So, I do not think that there was anything wrong in the Company Law Board saying that they will see whether the result of the petition which was pending in the court was in favour of the Government and if it was in favour of the Government, they would decide the matter. As I said, I do hope that the matter will be very expeditiously decided.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : In the judgment there is a clear wording that they were surprised at the scant respect with which they were treated and all that. Everything has been said there. If these are not considered strictures, I do not know what is the meaning of strictures.

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE : They have said that we should dispose of it. I have the utmost respect for the high court—or for the matter of that, any other high court also. The position was that all these things are not always known to them because they are not always judicial matters. They said we try our best to dispose of them. Now that the judgment has come, I would again repeat that a decision in this matter will be taken very quickly and without any delay.

May I then refer to some other aspects to which reference was made in the debate earlier. I think a large part of the debate was with reference to the Department of Justice. It was said that there has been a lot of arrears of cases in the courts, the high courts and the Supreme Court. I agree that we are also equally if not more concerned than the hon. Members with regard to the pendency of these cases, particularly in the superior courts like the high courts and the Supreme Court.

We have been trying to analyse the reasons and find out ways how those arrears can be reduced. We have written to the State Governments that they should review the judge strength in the light of the pending cases and should recommend for additional judges being appointed. Whenever such recommendations came, the strength had been increased. To put it briefly the judge strength of all the High Courts on 1-1-1967 was 245 and it has been raised to 335 on 1-1-1974. Many of the proposals are still being processed. The Government had appointed a Committee presided over by former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Mr. J. C. Shah and that Committee had given the Report. Many of the matters which are dealt with were administrative matters for which no legislation was necessary. Members know that administration of justice is a State subject. We have brought this matter to the notice of the State Governments. In respect of

matters which require legislation, we are taking steps to see that we bring in legislation.

The other season for delay is procedural. The procedure which has been obtaining in Courts has been such outmoded procedure and there are hierarchy of appeals. You do not know where finality can be reached. On the advice of the Law Commission, the Civil Procedure Code has been amended and subject to my colleague Mr. Raghu Ramaiah's permitting me to do so, I shall try to introduce the amending Bill in this Session. The Bill is ready. The Bill makes drastic changes in the matter of procedure, in the matter of appeals and regulation of proceedings. It is often said, rightly that a person who gets a decree and who is entitled to get a decree, does not get the fruits of his decree during his life time, and it takes one or two generations to get the fruits. To avoid this, steps are being taken and provisions are being made to the extent possible in the Civil Procedure Code. It will make adequate provisions for legal aid to indigent litigant or pauper. The 1908 Act defines "pauper" as a person who has property worth less than Rs. 100. The worth of Rs. 100 has now changed now, and taking that into account many more persons are allowed to get relief as indigent or paupers, in the matter of court case etc.

The Criminal Procedure Code has recently been amended. Many changes have been made. Particularly, there is the abolition of the committal proceedings. It was responsible for delay in the completion of trials and that has been done away with. Even in that Code provision has been made to a certain extent for legal aid to poor persons in prosecutions against them. Reference was made to the appointment of judges after their retirement. There are two aspects of the matter. Some of the laws themselves provided that in tribunals which function in a judicial or quasi-judicial manner you must have either a sitting judge or a retired judge. Taking into account the large pendency of cases in the High Courts and the Supreme Courts, it is not always easy to secure the services of a sitting judge to sit on Commissions which sometimes take one year or even more. Even then our recent policy has been as far as possible to have sitting judges for the disposal of cases referred to Commissions under the Commission of Enquiries Act or other enquiries arising under different Acts which are of a judicial or quasi-judicial character.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA : Our suggestion was not that. The retired judges do not submit reports.

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE : That was not the criticism of your other colleagues. Their other colleagues said 'do not appoint retired Judges at all'. In other words, what they said was, they were given lucrative positions after their retirement. This was the substance of their criticism. I do not know what the word 'lucrative' means. A Judge, even when he is appointed to some position after retirement, gets the same salary, including pension. Nothing more is given. But, it is not possible for us to make a general statement that we will not make use of their services at all. In any case, we may have to make use of the services of retired Judges, wherever we need expert judicial talent. But, it is our effort and endeavour, as I said earlier, as far as possible, not to do so. Hon. Members must have noticed that in regard to enquiries into the recent air crashes which have taken place, we chose sittings Judges of the High Court and the result was good, because the disposal was quick. But, I cannot give an assurance generally that I will never requisition the services of retired Judges for any other purpose.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Some times, a retired Judge is better than a tired Judge.

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE : All I can say is, I cannot see to it, whether a Judge is sitting or retired. But, I can see to it that he is not tired.

[Shri H. R. Gokhale]

A reference was made by many Members this time to the conditions of service of High Court Judges and Supreme Court Judges. The salary of Judges was fixed under the Constitution, when the Constitution came into force. Since then, they have not undergone any change. There is a widespread feeling that a second look at the conditions of service of these Judges, ought to be had. There is, therefore, the suggestion from many quarters that this should be looked into and I am in general agreement with these suggestions. In fact, I may take the House into confidence and say that at the moment, we are considering a change in the conditions of service of High Court and Supreme Court Judges. But, we are not proposing to amend the Constitution to increase their salaries, because we know that if we increase the salaries, most of it will come back again by way of tax. So, if you want to give something, some real relief, to those who dispense justice, we must try to do it as far as possible in such a way that something, in real terms, goes into their pockets.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Give them cheap grain.

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE : I will note that suggestion. But, that is not in my mind, at the present moment. I am considering various other things. I can assure you that these matters are being expeditiously dealt with. The question of providing housing and transport is under consideration. These are two of the matters, which are under consideration. Apart from that, we are also considering the question of revision of pension. No final decision has been taken. We are seized of the matter. We are sympathetically considering this. We hope that we will be able to do something very soon.

A reference was made to a matter, which was somewhat contraversial—about the Bench at Jaipur. Members clashed between themselves on this point. Some of them said that there should be a Bench and some others said that there should not be. I have been told this morning that the Legislative Assembly of Rajasthan has passed a resolution. But, unfortunately, they have not recommended anything. They have only said 'We leave it to the Centre'. I wish we have had some positive views from the Rajasthan Government, so that we would have been assisted in coming to a conclusion whether the Bench should be there or should not be there. All I can say is, for the time being . . .

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Gauhati) : The Setalvad Committee has said about these Benches . . .

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE : The point is, the Setalvad Committee, the Law Commission and the Shah Committee have all dealt with the question of arrears. Many other bodies have recommended that creation of new Benches should be discouraged. I am aware of that. It is not a matter where we can lay down a general rule.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Does it apply to Labour Benches also?

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE : I will come to that later on. But, a general rule cannot be laid down. In a particular case, creation of a Bench may be justified. In a big State, where distances are long, convenience of litigation may be a relevant factor. Therefore, we cannot rule out the possibility of creation of new Benches, although generally we should see that there is one High Court and we do not have too many Benches.

In regard to the creation of a Bench at Jaipur, all I can say is, we are looking into it carefully.

Reference was made to reduction of court fees. This matter is relatable to Entry 3 of the State List. The matter was considered many years back and court fees were not reduced. I do feel in some cases the burden of court fees is heavy. We will take up this matter with the State Governments again.

Today morning a reference was made to the Labour Bench by an hon. Member. He also referred to the answer given to an earlier question. As he himself rightly said, Government does not tell the Supreme Court in what way they should constitute these Benches. Government cannot and should not do that. The Chief Justice, looking at the pendency, expediency and exigency of the circumstances, constitutes the Benches. I have reason to give this assurance that the Supreme Court judges are quite aware that labour matters need expeditious disposal. Supreme Court is the highest court dealing with constitutional matters, which are sometimes referred to a Bench of 7 or 9 or even 13 judges and all other work is blocked. That also becomes in some cases inevitable. They have decide *habeas corpus* petitions. Some times there are matters which are more peremptory and urgent than labour matters. This is a matter of comparison

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Mr. Palkhivala is getting more time than labour.

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE : I do not know that, but the courts are aware that preference should be given to certain matters and they should be dealt with expeditiously. This is a matter in which Government cannot give directions. This is a matter which can be brought to their notice which we have done and which we will do. I have dealt with most of the points about the Department of Justice.

SHRI D. N. TIWARY (Gopalganj) : You have dealt with delays in High Courts and Supreme Court. In lower courts, it takes 7 to 10 years for a civil suit and 2 to 3 years for a criminal suit to be decided.

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE : The delays in procedure etc. to which I referred apply more to subordinate courts than to higher courts. The amendments of the various Acts I referred to will reduce the time taken in the subordinate courts apart from reducing the cost. The delay is always not on account of the judges. The lawyers also are to a certain extent responsible for the delay.

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN : (Kangra): Clients also.

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE : Lawyers speak only on behalf of their clients; they have no identify of their own; I am not castigating the profession. There are various causes for the delays. At any rate, the statutory reason, i.e. the in-built procedure which is consuming so much time has been taken care of. The C.P.C. and Cr. P.C. will apply more in the case of lower courts than higher courts. I am grateful to the hon. member for drawing attention to it.

PROF MADHU DANDAVATE : What about non-submission of MRTP reports?

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE : When this was brought to our notice, I had expressed regret. Although the reports were placed in the library, they were not placed on the Table of the House. After this was brought to our notices, we immediately expedited the placing of the reports. Quite a large number of them were placed on the Table including administrative reports. My information is that only six reports now remain to be placed and as soon as they are printed, they will be placed on the Table of the House.

Coming to the Election Commission, to which the hon. Member today referred, and there was reference on an earlier occasion also, I am very sorry to say that aspersions are cast on the Election Commission. I must say that the task of the Election Commission in a country where th electorate is so large, where the country itself is geographically so big is a difficult one.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : As long as it does not feather the nest of the Prime Minister and the ruling party, because super-annuated civil servant who too the line are appointed . . .

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE : The hon. Member brought to our notice some letter which he wrote to the Election Commissioner. I brought it to the notice of the Commission that whatever complaints are received should be enquired into. I did not issue any instructions to the Election Commission. I should not. I do not think it is expected that the Government should issue any instructions to the Election Commission, because it is a body created under the Constitution, which is an independent body.

I know that in a vast country like ours when the elections take place, particularly when the general elections take place all over th country, things go wrong here and there. For example, in some places the ballot boxes are tamperd with. I am not saying that everything is perfect and no tampering has been done even in a small degree. The real position is substantially the elections have been fair and wherever it has been found that boxes have been tampered with, necessary action has been taken. There was a complaint about 11 booths in the elections Gaighata in Bengal and so the pool in that area had to be postponed. But the election was held peacefully. As to what was the cause of this disturbance is now being investigated by the Election Commission.

In the UP elections, which have taken place recently, whatever complaints were received by the Election Commission are under investigation. The Election Commission is also thinking of instituting an enquiry into what has happened, what were the causes, whether the allegations are correct or incorrect.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : If a Member of Parliament wants some information, either as an individual or as a representative of a million and half, he can write a letter to the Election Commissioner. Because he is somebody who is independent, even though we pay for him, if he chooses not to reply because it is inconvenient to the ruling party or the Prime Minister, if he insists over the letter for months, it is not fair.

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN : This is a very unfair remark about the Election Commission.

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE : The Election Commission has been free and independent, irrespective of whether it concerns the Prime Minister or anybody else. If the hon. Member has any letter in his possession, he can show it to me; I will certainly look into it. I am very sorry to say that by this criticism we are really bringing down the independence and stature of the Election Commission. If particular cases are brought to our notice, we can refer them to the Election Commission. Even then, the Election Commission is not answerable to the Government because it is an independent constitutional authority. If there is any thing basically wrong anywhere, it can be looked into and the attention of the Election Commission can be invited to it. But I repudiate in the strongest terms the suggestion that the Election Commission is not independent. It is an independent body. It was so and it will continue to be so.

Something has been said, unfortunately without giving any details or instances, about the rigging of the elections in U.P. and Orissa. I have been hearing the word 'rigging' every day for quite some time. Probably, it means that some corrupt practice has been found out as far as I know no complaint which has been brought to the notice of the Election Commission has remained uninvestigated. There is judicial forum where corrupt practices can be investigated by challenging the election. There are other methods of looking into it. What is the use of saying only here that elections have been rigged. I would not accept this position at all. On the contrary, I would say with some kind of pride that the elections in this country have not been rigged, they are fair. Being a large democracy, probably the biggest democracy in the world, we should be proud that the elections have been fair and impartial.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : 'Indira imported thugs'—that was the caption in the London paper.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : While answering a question you have said that, as far as foundation-stone laying ceremonies and other ceremonies are concerned, after the 17th January notification on U.P. elections, no such foundation-stone laying ceremony and other ceremonies were undertaken by the Prime Minister. We have checked up and we find that, after 17th January, after the issue of the notification on U.P. elections, the Prime Minister has inaugurated a number of projects.

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE : All that I can say is that I have also checked up and I find that it has not been done. Even then the hon. Member has not written to me. If he writes to me, I will not hesitate to correct myself if I am wrong. But I do not think I am wrong. Particularly while making a statement in this House on foundation-stones laid by the Prime Minister, I do not think we make a cavalier or cursory statement; we make proper enquiry before making a statement. If you point out as to where it has been done, we will look into it.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : May I request you not to take him seriously and take away the foundation-stones ?

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE : You have been elected from U.P. If many projects are coming up in U.P., you should be happy about it.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : What I say is that those foundation stones should not be removed now, because you have said that you would make an enquiry and all that.

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE : I think I should take you less seriously than him.

Another problem is with regard to electoral reforms. With regard to electoral reforms, there was a Joint Committee for amendment of the electoral law. That Committee has made its recommendations, and a Bill based on those recommendations has already been introduced in this House, and I am willing to take it up. Time permitting, I am prepared to take it up for consideration at any time. And this aspect of electoral reforms can be considered in this House when this matter is brought before the House.

SHRI D. K. PANDA (Bhanjanagar) : The reduction of the voting age is not there.

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE : That is a different topic. I will come to that. This is not electoral reform. Changing the voting age requires an amendment of the Constitution; it cannot be made by amending the Representation of the People's Act. I was referring to electoral reforms and that can be done by ordinary law. The Bill on that subject has been introduced.

So far as voting age is concerned, there are pros and cons. This question has come up several times in this House. There are pros and cons. There are strong reasons for taking the view that we should not bring down the age of voting to 18. Inspit eof the fact that majority ordinarily applies at 18, the other laws do not allow a man to assume legal responsibility until he is 21 or in some cases 23. Nor is it correct to say that in other democratic countries the age of voting is 18. It has been reduced, that too comparatively recently, in England and in America. But in many other European countries it still continues to be 22 and in some cases even 23. I am not rejecting this suggestion. What I am saying is that it is not as if one can take a dogmatic view of the matter: it is not that because it has not been brought down, Government does not want to give them the right of voting. I am not giving the practical reasons. There are practical reasons also. But I would not put them ahead of more fundamental and important reasons. The practical reasons, for example, are the great increase in the electorate and a large amount of money involved, etc. But I am not giving those

[Shri H. R. Gokhale]

reasons. There are more basic and fundamental reason which go against it and there are also reasons which go in favour of it. That is why, I have said, pros and cons. That is why I have been saying that the matter must be given that importance which it deserves, and Government is considering it carefully.

SHRI D. K. PANDA: The right to recall and reduction of voting age should be there.

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE : The right to recall is a matter which you can talk about when the amendment to the Representation of the People Act comes before the House.

SHRI D. N. TIWARY: I want to draw your attention to one point. When the voting age is 21, even the young men of 19 or 18 are enrolled. If you bring down to 18, even young men of 14 or 12 will be brought in.

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE: This is one of the Cons out of the Pros and Cons of it. Of course, I do not go into it just now. So, these are all various aspects of the matter which are under consideration. There cannot be one uniform set of solutions beacuse conditions are different and problems are different and you cannot apply the same yardstick in every legislation. Of course, I am not rejecting the proposal; there are various pros and cons and it is not an easy matter to decide.

I now come to the question of legal aid. I think there is going to be a Half-an-hour discussion on Monday. A committee has been appointed and it has given a report. It is already being printed. But our examination has not waited for printing to be over. I am in a position to say that on the basis of the report we are formulating and drafting the legislation which we will bring up at the earliest possible opportunity.

It has been said that it was done in Gujarat, why not here. There is no question of comparison and all that. First of all, Administration of Justice is a State subject. Many aspects of administration of justice overlap in the matter of legal aid. I do not say it is an insurmountable difficulty. It is a surmountable difficulty but it is something where we have to go to the States. There are certain matters which we can do ourselves. But this is a matter which was wit in the legislative competence as far as that State was concerned. And as far as I know, Bhagwati report has been there and they have introduced it is one taluk in each district. The whole hog application of that report has not been made in Gujarat. I will say that at the earliest possible opportunity we will being legislation now that the report has been examined.

Two Acts have already been passed about which I have mentioned already regarding Civil Procedure Code and Criminal Procedure Code. Labour codes and revenue codes are there. Groups, subgroups and different sub-groups of tribals are there. Sir, I am grateful to hon. Members.

SHRI CHAPALENDU BHATTACHARYYIA (Giridih): There is difficulty in that the Kols have been left out from the list of scheduled tribes and that is creating lot of confusion and difficulty, in our area.

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE: That is a different problem.

Sir, I am grateful to hon. Members for having listened to me patiently.

SHRI D. K. PANDA: I have brought one example. How do you deal with such cases which are arising out of the implementation of land reforms, in respect of tribals, adivasis, harijans, etc. Why should there not be an assurance? Guidelines should be sent to the State.

15.00 hrs.

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE: I specifically referred to the tribals and adivasis who were also to be covered under the legal

aid scheme. We have taken note of the comments which you made the other day. We are looking into them.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: In the course of the reply, he has put in some interpretation of the legal document. To put the record straight. From you,— I am not referring to the hon-Minister—I want a clarification and your decision. I am reading one sentence out of what he said

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is out of context.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: He said that no strictures are passed on the Company Law Board. Here is one sentence, I quote:

> "The court is distressed to find that a high-powered and responsible body like the Company Law Board should not have erred to carry out such directions of this court till to-day."

I want to know from you whether these remarks of the court mean the strictures against the Company Law Board or they mean congratulating them on their performance.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Well. it sounds like that ultimately. There are a number of cut motions moved by Shri Bade, Shri Panda, Shri S. N. Singh and by Shri Ramavatar Shastri. Does any Member want any particular motion to be put separately? I may put all of them together.

I shall now put all the cut motions to the vote of the House.

All the Cut Motions were put and negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

> "That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account shown in the fourth column of the Order paper be granted to the President *to complete* the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1975, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 68 and 69 relating to the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs."

The motion was adopted

[*The motions for Demands for Grants, which were adopted by the Lok Sabha, are reproduced below :—Ed.*]

DEMAND NO. 68 :—MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS..

> "That a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,04,32,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1975, in respect of 'Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs'."

DEMAND NO. 69.—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

> "That a sum not exceeding Rs. 19,04,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1975, in respect of 'Administration of Justice'."

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demands Nos. 11 and 12 relating to the Ministry of Commerce for which 7 hours have been allotted.

Hon. Members present in the House who desire to move their cut motions may send slips to the Table within 15/ minutes indicating the serial numbers of the cut motions they would like to move. They will be treated as moved.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker]

DEMAND NO. 11—MINISTRY OF COMMERCE

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 89,99,000 on Revenue Account be granted to the President *to complete* the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1975 in respect of 'Ministry of Commerce'."

DEMAND NO. 12.—FOREIGN TRADE AND EXPORT PROMOTION.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker Motion moved :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 140,18,81,000 on Revenue Account and not exceeding Rs. 162,52,91,000 on Capital Account be granted to the President *to complete* the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1975 in respect of 'Foreign Trade and Export Promotion'."

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI (Patna): I beg to move :

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure to nationalise foreign trade (86)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure to nationalise cotton textile Mills (87)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure to eradicate corruption prevalent in State Trading Corporation of India (88)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure to nationalise foreign tea and rubber plantations (89)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure to nationalise jute trade (90)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Anti-people policy of helping the monopolists and hurting the poor people by increasing the prices of coarse cloth (91)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Need to strengthen further trade relations with socialist countries (92)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Rs. 100."

[Failure to overcome the crisis in handloom industry (93)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced to Rs. 100."

[Failure to ensure regular supply of yarn to weavers (94)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Failure to remove large scale unemployment among weavers (95)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Failure to eradicate rampant corruption and favouritism in distribution of yarn to weavers (96)]

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Commerce' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Failure to check increase in prices of yarn (97)]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Demands for Grants and the Cut Motions are now before the House.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, they have wanted Rs. 303 crores for reopening a colonial pattern of trade. I am not too harshsounding that way over the deception motto in figures. Look at the gap between one and the other which is that of an ocean. If you have a look at the figures given by the Reserve Bank of India (Commerce Intelligence) with their comments and also the DGCIS, you would be really perplexed and confused. If you look at the Annual Report what does it say : It says :

"During the first nine months of 1973-74, exports according to the provisional estimates were 21.6 per cent higher than the level reached in the corresponding period of the previous year. Even if this rate of growth is not maintained during the remaining three months of the year. It is expected that during the remaining three months of the year, it is expected that the growth during 1973-74, the year of the Fourth Plan, would be considerably in excess of the average rate achieved during the first four years of the Fourth Plan".

Then, Sir, if you have a look at what they have stated in the Economic Survey, you will find the following :—

"Further, the facts that higher prices of some of our traditional exports have made a significant contribution to export growth since 1972-73 is indicative of the potential weakness of our export effort. As the international commodity been ends, some of our exports are bound to be affected. A significant shortfall in exports of engineering goods in relation to the Fourth Plan targets is another indication of the weakness of our export base."

Then, Sir, the Annual Report in another place supports this :

"Although exports of engineering goods at Rs. 138.7 crores during 1972-73 were 13 per cent higher than in the preceding year, the performance was much below expectations. Commodities which showed a decline in exports in 1972-73 over the level reached in 1971-72 were : tea, jute manufactures, sugar, iron and steel, manganese ore and spices."

So, even in the traditional field you have not been able to retain the market that was there. There is an interesting news with regard to Directorate-General of Commerce Intelligence and Statistics :

"However, even the corrected figures will give a misleading impression if compared with April-August exports last year. In 1972 the DGCIS omitted something like Rs. 80 crores worth of exports to Bangladesh. If this is taken into account, it means that there has been a decline of five per cent in exports this year."

Sir, here let us see what is the performance like in spite of all this drum-beating. I will be comparing the figures for 1964 and 1971. In 1964 it was 1.7 percent of the world total and the value was 1.1 billion U.S. dollars. In 1971 it has come down to 0.7 per cent. Now, for Asia it is growing but for India it is coming down. As regards Asia and annual growth rate for 1971 is 7.6 per cent; for Middle East it is 8.3 per cent and Other Asia it is 7.3 per cent. But with all the drum-beating we are nowhere near the mark.

These photostats that I have been able to bring will show how figures have been cooked and I would like, with your permission, to lay* them on the Table of the House. This is with regard to the T.D.A.

*The hon. Member later informed that the documents need not be treated as laid on the Table.

[Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu]

These photostats will show that the figures were tampered by a Director of Research and Analysis. The figures which have been handled in his handwriting to show a better performance will reveal how honestly they function within their own department. I would like to give these figures. This T.D.A. is under the joint patronage of Tatas and the Ford Foundation. Tatas get Rs. 5 lakhs as fees. It was formed in theory to help middle and small exporters. T.D.A. claims 100 per cent credit for the orders booked but may not be by virtue of their own efforts. It may be that the clientele had their own orders and the TDA has included them in their claims. I would like this to be verified because these documents have really caused anxiety in me, and if this goes on in a big authority like this which deals with foreign business it is a very bad day for us.

For 1972-73 the target was Rs. 35 crores worth of exports the achievement was Rs. 25 crores but the actual shipment was Rs. 20 crores. This is how I can give one instance of how they bring out the figures. The whole thing needs a thorough and careful look by an authority unconnected with the Ministry. Otherwise, they will come and try and cover up the whole thing.

Then, let us take the example of performance in the field of mica export. On the basis of the Mineral Year book and also the research conducted by the Nehru University, the production of mica on average over the past 15 years is 22,000 tonnes per year; the export per year is 25,000 to 26,000 tonnes per year and the internal consumption is 4000 to 5000 tonnes per year. Prof. Chattopadhyaya and his regiment must be a band of magicians because when the production on an average does not exceed 22,000 tonnes per year, I do not know how they have been exporting and consuming a total of 29,000 to 31,000 tonnes per year.

SHRI CHAPALENDU BHATTACHARYYIA : They carry large stocks.

* SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Let him not identify himself and let him not show his ignorance.

SHRI CHAPALENDU BHATTACHARYYIA : I know it. This is a prominent feature of the mica industry. They carry large stocks for the last fifty years.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I am glad. There are also other items which are being exported. Is it not a fact that other items are also being exported under the garb of mica?

Now, let us take another item, because they have a big emprise, all colonies, in fact. Take, for example, textiles. The production has increased but the price also has increased. I shall show you how. Take, for example, mill-made cotton fabrics, medium B. In 1971, the production was 1038 million metres, in 1972 it was 1192 million metres, and in 1973 it was 1168 million metres. In the case of production of cotton fabrics, it is the same position. It is almost the same position in the case of man-made fibres also. The variation in prices of non-controlled cotton cloth and man-made fibre products which are being produced continuously and for which data are available are as follows. The percentage of variation in price in February, 1972 over February 1971, in one year's time, in the case of coarse variety was 1.27 ; the variation percentage for 1973 over February, 1972 was 6.33, and when we come to 1974, the variation over February 1973 has jumped to 23.80 plus 33.33. In three years' time, what is the total rise? What a terrific fleecing of the common man. In three years, the total rise exceeds 60 per cent or even more than that. Similarly in the case of medium and other grades also it is a terrible fleecing which is going on, and these people are hand in gloves with the looters. Then, look at the profits. A study of the balance-sheets shows the following position. Of course, this is only profit in black and white; they have a lot more money; maybe 300 or 400 per cent more tucked in here and there. A study of the balance-

sheets of 288 cotton mills/companies in the private sector for 1972-73 reveals that the gross profit after depreciation worked out before interest, development rebate and taxation was Rs. 8664.73 lakhs in 1972--73 and one year earlier, namely in 1971-72 the profit was Rs. 5171.33 lakhs. So, in one year, the rise is more than 60 per cent. Prof. Chattopadhyaya, if I am right, professor of philosophy, is in fact very nicely serving the cause of his leader, the author of Garibi Hatao in this country. What is fantastic about cotton textiles is that Bilaspur Spinning Mills made an appreciation in the price of 427.40 per cent in one year. I may tell Mr. Naik if he wants that this is from the *Economic Times* dated the 25th November, 1973, which says 'Appreciation in the price of equity to the tune of 427.1 per cent'. This textile profiteering is really a very disturbing thing. This is the index of ordinary share prices (1969-70 as the base year 100) : Cotton textiles, in 1972 (December) 108.1; in 1973 it is 152.7, a rise of 50 per cent in one year. Jute textile : It was 84.6 a year ago; a year after in 1973 (Dec.) it is 123.9 So whose *garibi is hatao-ed*, we cannot understand.

It has been very nicely described:

> "At a time when consumers are under great pressure because of rising prices and widening area of shortages, it is significant that the industrial profits and dividends are up. A study by the *Economic Times* of profits and dividends revealed that more than 100 companies had retained a pre-tax profit of more than one crore. . . ."

All the textile companies have reaped the richest harvest. I know the Centuries and New Sherrocks, so many companies who are their great patrons and godfathers sitting in Bombay and filling their coffers. Their equities have even appreciated to the tune of 150 per cent in one year. So you could understand which category of persons this hon. Minister belongs to.

On 29th March 1974, another enormous price rise was allowed. I hear that in America they have started streaking. I suppose that is an encouragement; it has started in Kerala. You want the youth of the country to go about naked. Certainly your policy adoption will take them a long way in this.

How nicely they have damaged the handloom industry! They have called themselves *Gandhiwadi;* they say that the handloom belongs to the cottage industry section. There is a ban in theory, that coloured saris will not be produced by power-loom units. But have you ever implemented that? You have not. You have a policy decision in theory. You may have brought about an enactment in theory, but you never implement it.

SHRI DHAMANKAR (Bhiwandi): It is implemented.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: It is not. I have got definite evidence in my hands.

Coming to yarn, Shri Chattopadhyaya is very much in it. Through his hands, the yarn tycoons prospered. When you keep water in a pitcher, it starts sweating. Those who handle it also get wet.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Are you sure you are not spinning yarn?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I have to in this case.

As for his following in West Bengal, he has been kind enough to keep his party intact in West Bengal by giving quotas to MLAs. They have all got bogged down in blackmarketting in the quota of yarn. You can verify it. I say it on my own responsibility.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY (Cooch-Behar): Why does he bring in the MLAs here?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: A hundred crores of rupees have been fleeced by mill-owners. I want to ask through you,

[Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu]

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, how much share came to Delhi to individuals and to groups?

As for details of prices, again it is alarming. Regarding average cotton yarn rates, inclusive of all charges, for 34 counts in May 1971 it was Rs. 56(5 kg. bundle); for 44 counts in May 1971 it was Rs. 71 and in October 1973 it was Rs. 120. These are the things that they are doing.

Somebody in the know of things has said that there has been creation of Rs. 100 crores of black money in the textile industry during the last one year through black-marketing in yarn. As for the Textile Corporation—I know it is no longer in his pigeon hole—it is another scandal. Is it not a fact that the former Managing Director was found to indulge in, or there were allegations that he had been adopting, corrupt practices? Is it not also a fact that a CBI inquiry was instituted against him? I am talking of Shri K.K. Dhar. I do not quite understand what is meant by this word : 'It has been ascertained from the CBI that no *open* inquiry was made at any time against Shri Dhar'. How Many types of CBI inquiry you have? Open, close, reserved, registered and unregistered? What is it? Is it also a fact that this man had acquired property disproportionate to his income including, I am told—if it is correct, please find out—an apple orchard in the Kulu area.

The Indian Cotton Mills Federation was another body. You gave them enough to loot the country. The textile exporters are alleging that the Indian Cotton Mills Federation are holding them to ransom by not clearing the incentives due to them since January. What is it they are doing? While the estimated collection from premier foreign cotton has been about Rs. 150 crores to Rs. 160 crores, the actual disbursement by way of incentive has not been more than Rs. 125 crores. We would like this to be clarified clearly and frankly.

Then about nylon spinners. It is an interesting article which says. "The crisis facing the nylon weavers— the ruling Congress party has once again used the machinery of Government for political purposes and squeezed the nylon spinners who have been made to pay about Rs. 8 crores this time for the forthcoming UP elections. As in the past, it is reliably learnt—"

AN HON. MEMBER: What is the source?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: This paper is owned by Shri Uma Shankar Dikshit. "Current."

"that the fund is deducted and the cut is believed to be half at source."

Mr. Chattopadhyaya should enlighten us on this. (*Interruptions*) Mr. Uma Shankar Dikshit is the real owner, and Mr. Salve is a dummy in between.

Take the jute industry. It is a scandal for any country. You talk about democracy; you talk about socialism. Jute is an industry where a handful of people are given the opportunity to fleece the workers as well as the growers, and the profit is skyhigh. It is now accepted that they make a profit of about Rs. 1 crore a day. Even the *Economic and Political Weekly* of Bombay in the recent past has confirmed this. There are jute strikes, as you know, for a long enough time. Some INTUC leaders—I can hear them complaining—and leaders of the Congress party were very critical of the Minister who did not lift his little finger because he was so very anxious to lend support to the IJMA led by the same old Goenka whom he has been trying to protect in the Asian Cables scandal. It is a disgraceful thing.

The wholesale index for jute on the 8th December, 1972 was 236.1. The base year is 1960 : 100.

In November, 1963, it was 190.4. It came down; jute-growers must get less money. In December of the same year—in one month, from 190.4 it came down

to 184.2. In one year, I can tell you that the jute-growers have been cheated to the tune of Rs. 200 crores.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The hon. Member's time is up.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: What is the time I get, Sir?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: 19 minutes.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I will require a little more time. Thank you.

SHRI B. V. NAIK (Kanara): The figures of cheating that you mention will be greater than the gross national product of India.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: You have no idea. The gross national product as recorded by you is only a fraction of the real money-making outside the books of account.

SHRI B. V. NAIK: We expect you to publish new statistics.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : We do. This Jute Corporation of India is another sham body and a show-piece. We have invested enough money in that, but it has given no service at all. They could have saved the poor jute grower. I again blame this Minister, Prof. Chattopadhyaya; he is preventing them from coming into the market in a big way, because he had to collect funds for his party to the tune of Rs. 200 crores. So, the jute growers, the poor growers, had to pay for them through their flesh and blood.

How the Minister obtained concession for these people is very clear from the reply that he has given. "With a view to increasing the competition of Indian Jute Manufacturers, etc. . "—"Reduction in duty to the tune of Rs. 400 had been given." Only recently you have removed it, I know. But do you now how much they have earned? They have, on the one pretext that we want to be more competitive in the foreign market, and also because of the competition in synthetics, forced the Government to reduce the duty. You force the Government to abolish the duty and that resulted in a loss of Rs. 72 crores to the Central revenue in a few months. In foreign markets of course the prices soared and the tycoons devoured all the money and all the black money in foreign exchange is being accumulated there. You are allowing this under invoicing plus this under-sale plus all the manipulations that they do under your very nose. You allow them to accumulate wealth in foreign countries.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please try to conclude now.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I will take a little time. The gross in 1969-70 in crores of rupees was Rs. 12.66; in 1970-71, it was Rs. 19.76 crores and in 1971-72, Rs. 30.66 crores. How they cheat the Exchequer and fleece the people and the workers will be told by these figures. Virtually a big concessional loan was granted and it has been charged to the Government. You could see from the Performance Budget of the Ministry and you know it very well that it is another indirect operation. If I come to packaged tea no advance has been made whatever. We are financing schemes through the TEA Board. The SRC is only carrying coal to New Castle. Duncan Brothers have benefited the most. The maximum number of loans have been taken through Mr. Goenka. The small growers, people who find it hard to survive, the sick gardens could not get money.

Another feather in your cap is the TTCI. It took five years of hammering from us to make you agree to this but it was a still born baby. 2-1/2 years have passed. The godfathers, Brooke Bonds and Liptons, do not approve of your exporting package tea and they have been successful in scuttling the measure and you have joined hands with them. Can you tell us why an organisation which is about 2-1/2 years old has not been able, to my knowledge, to export tea at all? I want to know who is the Chairman and who is the managing director.

[Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu]

Now you are talking about the TTCI taking over sick tea gardens. Is that the reason why TTCI was constituted? Or do you want to divert them so that they do not pose a danger to Brooke Bonds and Liptons? I know they are very powerful. They maintain a lobby in your ministry and among politicians. I know that they pay money liberally to many people.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Give tea also.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Will you take some time?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I would need some more time.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We shall take up private business now.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Then, I remain on my legs.

15.28 hrs.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) BILL*

[INSERTION OF NEW SECTION 101A]

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN (Madras South): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.29 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

[AMENDMENT OF EIGHTH SCHEDULE]

SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH (Inner Manipur): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India"

The motion was adopted.

SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.30 hrs.

PARLIAMENTARY INTEGRITY COMMISSION BILL*

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY (Cooch-Behar): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the constitution of a Parliamentary Integrity Commission and matters incidental thereto.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the constitution of a Parliamentary Integrity Commission and matters incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI B. K. DAS HOWDHURY: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

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*Published in Gazette of India Extra-ordinary, Part II, section 2, dated 5-4-74.

15.30-1/2 hrs.

BEEDI AND CIGAR WORKERS (CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT) AMENDMENT BILL*

[AMENDMENT OF SECTIONS 1, 2 ETC.]

SHRI A. K. GOPALAN (Palghat): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI A. K. GOPALAN: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.31 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

[AMENDMENT OF ARTICLES 124, 125 ETC.]

श्री मधु लिमये (बांका): मान्यवर, मैं भारत के संविधान के अनुच्छेद 124, 125 आदि में और संशोधन करने वाले विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति चाहता हूं।

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India".

The motion was adopted.

श्री मधु लिमये: मैं विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित† करता हूं।

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Hukam Chand Kachwai—Absent.

15.31-1/2 hrs.

ANCIENT MONUMENTS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND REMAINS (AMENDMENT) BILL

[INSERTION OF NEW SECTION 20A]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We now take up the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (Amendment) Bill.

Shri Ulaganambi.

15.32 hrs.

[SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI *in the Chair*]

SHRI R. P. ULAGANAMBI (Vellore): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958, be taken into consideration."

Sir, I will begin my speech by referring to the Statement of Objects and Reasons contained in my Bill, the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (Amendment) Bill, 1972.

"There are a large number of ancient monuments of historical importance in various States, some of which are intimately associated with the life of historical figures. On occasions, popular demands are voiced for installing, erecting,

*Published in Gazette of India Extra ordinary, Part II, section 2, dated 5-4-74.

†Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

[Shri P. R. Ulaganambi]

constructing or building suitable memorials to perpetuate the memory of such persons or adding to the histriocity of such monuments. It is in the fitness of things that the desirability of accepting such demands be left to be decided by the popularly elected Legislative Assembly of the State within which a protected monument is situated."

The ancient monuments of India constitute her cultural heritage. The Archaeological Survey of India, which is the custodian of the national heritage of this land, is 72 years old. This central organisation has been entrusted with the onerous responsibility of preserving and maintaining ancient monuments, archaeological sites and remains of national importance for posterity. I will briefly refer to constitutional provisions in this regard. Item 67 of the Union List, Item 12 of the State List and Item 40 of the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule of our Constitution deal with ancient monuments and archaeological sites and remains. The Union Government can make laws not only on the ancient monuments, archaeological sites and remains of national importance but also other than those of national importance because of the authority enjoined upon it by the provision in the Concurrent List. The State Governments do not have exclusive powers even in regard to monuments other than those of national importance. I have referred to this constitutional situation to impress upon this House the avarice of the Union Government in appropriating powers of the State Governments also. I want to point out that I have introduced this Bill not with any parochial view-point. As the hon. Members are aware, the monuments are spread over the entire length and breadth of the country. It is not that because an Opposition Party is ruling Tamil Nadu, the State Government seeks exclusive powers in preserving and maintaing monuments. Though the State Governments run by the ruling Congress party may also be keen to have more powers, yet, the political propriety perhaps prevents them from initiating legislative procesess to [illegible] this objective.

I need not stress the point that the monuments are firstly within the easy reach of the State Governments and the people of the States revere them. The central organisation located far away from the monuments, in spite of all its earnestness and zeal, cannot devote the attention that these monuments deserve. I would like to substantiate this argument by referring to certain facts which cannot be controverted by the hon. Minister of Education.

According to an assessment made by the ASI, about 1300 antique sculptures, bronzes and other art objects had been stolen from the centrally protected monuments during the period 1952 to 1971. It is also reported that the stolen objects were of the value of several crores of rupees. They have all been taken out of the country throwing dust in the eyes of the Central Customs authority. A well organised smugglers' net-work is operating successfully and is depriving the country's museums, temples and caves of valuable frescoes, bronzes, miniatures, base-reliefs etc. Thefts of pieces from the Nalanda Museum, Mohanjodaro seals and Khajuraho and Konarak sculptures cannot be easily forgotten. A thousand idol thefts had taken place in a week, the former Education Minister Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao was frank enough to confess on the floor of this House.

There are 15,000 monuments in various parts of our vast country. If they had been properly protected, could such large-scale thieving have taken place? Some years, the Central Government set up a four member Archaeological Review Committee, headed by the world-famous archaeologist, Sir Mortimer Wheeler to assess the work of ASI. This committee submitted its report, which contained 21 major recommendations in April 1965. The Government have not yet implemented all the recommendations of this committee. Expressing dissatisfaction at the attitude of ASI towards research work, the former D.G., Prof. B.B. lal, a world renowned archaeologist, who was associated

by the UN in its international commitments, resigned and preferred the obscurity of professorship in a small university to the job of the Director General.

Sir, Agra is not very far off from the headquarters of the central organisation, Yet, due to the inadequate protection given by the ASI to the ancient art treasure, it has been reported in the press on March 24, 1974, that several costly idols have been stolen from an ancient Jain temple at Agra. I am sure that the House would not have forgotten the theft and later recovery of Chola period Nataraja idol. Serious efforts were made by the Central Government in recovering this idol only after our Chief Minister, Dr. Kalaignar Karunanidhi appealed personally to the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi in this respect. The ASI's incapacity and inability to discharge its responsibility in preserving ancient monuments from decay and destruction has been brought out by the appointment of a committee under the chairmanship of Dr. Karan Singh, when he was Minister of Tourism to undertake the preparation of Master Plans for environmental improvement and landscaping of the Monuments of tourist interest. Dr. Nurul Hasan is just a Member of this committee. The work of environmental improvement and landscaping should have been initiated by Dr. Nurul Hasan, bearing in mind the intrinsic historical worth of these Monuments and not merely as centres of national and international tourism. But this approach suits the normal tendency of the Central Government to touch only the fringe of the problems and to allow the vitals to rot.

Even here, master plans are reported to be under preparation only for groups of monuments in North and Central India, as if South India has not contributed anything worthwhile for historical and cultural evolution of the country, when I say this, I can be accused of spreading regionalism. Regionalism spreads not by people like me but by the actions of the Central Government.

Sir Mortimer Wheeler, who was the Director-General of Archaeology from 1943 to 1948, was in India in November 1969. He visited Tamil Nadu at that time. He observed that the excavation work of Kaveripattinam, otherwise called Poem Puhar, in Thanjavur District was being followed with great interest all over the world. He felt that more funds should be made available to continue this work. But the views of the world famous archaeologist have fallen on the deaf ears of the Central Government.

There are 118 temples and sites in Tamil Nadu which are under the ostensible protection of the Central Government. I refer to these monuments in Tamil Nadu, because I am personally aware of their decayed condition now. Similarly, all the other hon. Members must have personal experience of the ancient monuments in their respective States.

The Central Organisation is not attending to the work of preservation and protection of these themselves in Tamil Nadu. The usual excuse given by the Centre is paucity of funds and lack of trained personnel.

I can anticipate the reply of the hon. Minister in regard to thefts. He will say that the State Government should help the Centre by giving local police protection for these ancient monuments. The local police protection would definitely be given if these temples and monuments are protected from decay and destruction through natural causes. When there is no environmental improvement at all, how do you expect the local police to reach these places?

If the Centre cannot do this work, there should be the least hesitation on their part to hand over this responsibility to the States. The Minister might put forth the argument of national importance. I would like to know whether the State Governments are not capable of appreciating this question of national importance. After all, they are national State Governments, not

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any foreign national Governments. Secondly, so far as monuments are concerned, they represent the variegated culture of our country.

The reason for my referring to this aspect is that the local people and their elected Government have got some kind of vested interest in preserving their ancient cultural monuments. Here I can say without the fear of contradiction that the ancient monuments, which are within the competence of the State Government of Tamil Nadu, are being looked after in a much better manner than those of national importance. I can mention the condition of the temple in Vellore Fort, which has been declared as of national importance. In fact, the temple in Vellore Fort is facing extinction now. I should say that the present state of Vellore Temple is a national insult. Compare this with Madurai Temples under the State sphere. The gap between the two temples is like the gap between the preachings and practice of the Central Government.

Even after the repteated requests of our Chief Minister to hand over the Vellore Temple, Brahadeeswara Temple in Tanjore and the Temple in Gangaikonda Sozhapuram, the Central Government says "you collect money for their renovation and hand it over to us; we will take care of those temples". I am reminded here of the famous Tamil proverb "You bring flattened rice and I will bring the husk; let both of us eat after separating the husk from the flattened rice".

In Brahadeeswara Temple, bowing down to the wishes of Tamil people, the State Government wanted to erect a statue of Raja Raja Chola, the builder of the temple.

Sir, it will not be an exaggeration to say that our Chief Minister, Dr. Kalaignar Karunanidhi, is the greatest living Tamil scholar. In fact, he is an ambodiment of all the best in Tamil Culture, which is as old as this country.

The people of Tamil Nadu wanted to honour the memory of one of their great Kings, Raja Raja Chola, whose valour was no less than that of Nepolean, the Great, and whose services and love for the people are personified in our Chief Minister. Naturally, our Chief Minister repeatedly requested the Centre's permission for erecting a statue of Raja Raja Chola inside Brahadeeswara Temple constructed by the King whose architectural skill is the wonder of the world. Can there be a better place than his own temple, for honouring this master-builder? The Centre talked of the architectural imbalance that this statue would create and refused permission to instal this statue even in the open ground opposite to the Temple. I wonder whether the electrification of the Temple has not created the architectural imbalance. The Centre which swears by the name of people's democracy has not cared to respect the wishes of the Tamil people and their democratically elected Chief Minister. We did not want the Centre to take over the Venkateswara Temple in Tirupati constructed by the Tamil people or the Kannagi Temple in Kerala constructed in the honour of the heroine of the great Tamil classic, Silapathigaram.

The attitude of the Central Government in refusing permission for installing the statue of Raja Raja Chola has created the demand in Tamil Nadu that the Centre should hand over such monuments as are requested by the State to the care of the State Government.

About Vellore Fort, I want to say a few words because I represent that constituency and I know about it very well. It has been declared as a monument of national importance only in words and not in deeds. The time at my disposal is very short. If I had more time, I could narrate the whole history of Vellore Fort. Therefore, I would be very brief.

The Fort and the temple inside are 700 years old. The Vellore Mutiny of 1806 was the precursor to the mutiny of 1857,

known as the Indian War of Independence. Inside this Fort, there are many offices of the Government without any facilities like ventilation, etc. As the Fort is in the heart of the town, ten acres of land around the Fort had become an eyesore for the people on account of poor maintenance of the Central organisation. After a great struggle, the State Government was permitted to improve this vast open area around the Fort and on 17-3-1974 the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu inaugurated a grand garden, a Children's traffic park, a trolly train and so on in this area. The temple inside the Fort is gathering green moss. The Centre would not do anything to renovate the temple so that the people of Vellore can feel proud of this monument. The State Government has been representing against this gross neglect of an ancient monument. The State Government is prepared to protect and maintain this monument in the truest sense of a monument of national importance, but the Centre has not responded to this genuine demand of the people. Naturally there will be many such instances in other States too and this Bill when passed into a law will meet the aspirations of the entire people of our country.

Sir, Kaveripattinam in Tamil Nadu commonly known as Poombuhar represents the composite culture of our country. It was the capital of a great Chola king, Karikalan from 60 BC to 10 BC and an envoy was sent by this king to the court of Augustus Caeser who was ruling Rome at that time. Kaveripattinam was a world renowned port at that time. This was the place where Vaishnavites, Saivaites, Buddhists and Jains lived in perfect amity. A Buddha Vihara was erected here around 400 A.D.

On 17-4-73, our Chief Minister opened an Art Gallery at this sacred place of international importance to attract the attention of the world towards the 2000 year old Tamil culture. He also got erected a memorial for Karikalan and Elango Adigal, the author of the Tamil Classic, Silappadikaram.

In 1961, the ASI started excavation work here and, as I pointed out earlier, it attracted the attention of the entire world. But later this has been abandoned by the A.S.I.

When the Centre does not want to let the world know about the ancient Tamil culture and when the State Government under the leadership of the greatest Tamil scholar desire to do something concrete why should not the Centre hand over the responsibility of continuing excavation work to the State Government?

When the ancient temples are falling due to the negligence of the ASI the Central Government was so worried about the architectural balance of the temple that the request of the State Government was not acceded to. The Centre may encourage the decay of nation's heritage, but will not encourage the States to protect them and to preserve them and also to fulfil the aspirations of the people for perpetuating the memory of those who built these monuments. Ajanta and Ellora paintings are drawing international tourists. Every Indian is proud of this national heritage. But in Tamil Nadu there is a place called Sithannavasal near Pudukottai. The excellent paintings in the cave here are of 9th century A.D. The rock-beds with inscriptions are of II and III Century B. C. Though the Central Archaeological Department is entrusted with the duty of maintaining and preserving this. Except the people of Tamil Nadu, none in the country knows even the existence of such beautiful buildings. I doubt whether the hon. Minister of Education has ever come across this ancient monument, though he has categorised it as a monument of national importance. What is the use of declaring such priceless monuments as of national importance, when those in charge of the nation do not take care of them?

This has only promoted me to introduce this Bill. This Bill has the background of Tamil Nadu Government's monumental

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performance in protecting, preserving and maintaining ancient monuments, other than of national importance. The Tamil Nadu Government's words are backed by deeds. The State Government's demands are only reflecting the will of the entire four crore people of Tamil Nadu. Their desire is translated into action by the State Government.

To enumerate only a few, an intensive survey of outstanding bronze and art pieces in all the temples of Tamilnadu has been undertaken by the State Government so as to take effective action to prevent theft of these priceless treasures.

The Tamil Nadu Government has also set up an institute for the study of epigraphy as the Union Government has been rather indifferent to the promotion of epigraphical and other historical studies. The epigraphs found in Tamil Nadu for outnumber those in any other State.

I will conclude by appealing to all the Members of this House to extend their wholehearted support to this Bill, as this reflects the unfulfilled aspirations of the people living in different States, who are constantly reminded of their hoary past for these monuments which have been left to the vagaries of nature and to the vandalisms of a few unprincipled men. The hapless behaviour of the Centre in the matter of protecting these monuments can only be substituted by handing over them to the States which express their desire to maintain them. On occasions, when popular demands are voiced for installing, constructing or building suitable memorials to perpetuate the memory of such persons or adding to the historicity of such monuments, the Centre should accept such demands and permit the State Governments to meet the aspirations of the people. The Centre should not stand on false prestige and, if necessary, the Constitution also should be amended for achieving this laudable objective.

With these words, I commend the Bill to the approval of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

"That the Bill further to amend the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958, be taken into consideration".

SHRI B. V. NAIK (Kanara): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Shri Ulaganambi's Bill, as I from the Statement of Objects and Reasons, is good and I must compliment the hon. Member in not only trying to deserve the very honourable and very ancient language and culture of Tamil Nadu but, the wording in the Statement of Objects and Reasons seems also to cover fairly familiar grounds.

It is in the fitness of things that the desirability of accepting such demands has to be discussed by the popularly elected members of the Legislative Assemblies of the states. They are protected monuments situated in the States. I do appreciate also my hon. friend's anxiety that not only the popular monuments which are locally identified but also the people who are associated with them should also be permitted to protect such memorials. I feel that since 1904, if I remember aright, Shri Curzon brought in the lagislation. During Curzon's regime, this is one of the positive contributions that had been made by him. I would like to appreciate the idea that has been given by Shri Ulaganambi. He is trying to bring in, I suppose, through the process of this Bill, also the oft repeated conception of the State's autonomy.

Sir, all of us come from various States and we do believe that there are certain areas where, it would be, in the fitness of pensable. I also feel that there are certain areas where, it would be, in the fitness of things, that a particular culture whether it is the culture of Karnatak or the culture of Tamil Nadu should be encouraged for the sense of appreciation of the local people. Take, for example, the temple at Madurai. I want to know whether there is any one in this wide world—not only in the Indian set-up but also from outside who would not be attracted or magnetised by the

architecture there. Similarly take the places like Belur and Halebid. I feel that the ancient monument, the classic creations in stone mortar, is not only a heritage of the Southern Culture. These are not only the heritage of India but they remain the pride possessions of the heritage of the entire humanity. Therefore, I would say the more liberal outlook we take in the matter of art, architecture, monuments and temples better it will be for not only that specific local sub-culture but for all of us.

16.00 hrs.

In this behalf I would like to draw the attention to one of the factors, that is, South is teaming with monuments and all of them do not fall into our concept of an archeological monument. I am not going to quote the creations of another female genius in our history, Shantla Devi of Belur and Hardhi, who created these temples where there are hundreds and thousands of carved female figures. Each one of these would itself in any foreign museum bring us hundred thousand rupees. So, a sort of desired intellect would say if we are short of foreign exchange there is a store-house of foreign exchange standing in stone and mortar. There has been a considerable amount of pilferage and smuggling and something will have to be done by the Ministry of Culture in this behalf. But the point I was driving at is in the South there is a worship of a tiger; there is a worship of the forces of nature; there is worship of a local river. Now, all these could be brought in because by and large the common masses in the South still have a sort of deeply engraved belief in regard to these local manifestations of the ultimate reality or nature. I have not been able to find the tiger god monument or the temple of tiger every being taken up as a sort of archeological monument that could be preserved under the Central legislation. I would, therefore, urge that the spirit, not the form, in which it has been stated should be considered. Whenever there is trouble with D.M.K. they play with their trump-card; they seem to be repeating the same old things and the same old swan song of State autonomy *versus* the Centre.

SHRI R. P. ULAGANAMBI : For his information, I may tell him that I am not in that trouble.

SHRI B. V. NAIK: That is why I have talked not only about idols and temples but also about other idols.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE (Betul) : Are they politically so obsolete ?

SHRI B. V. NAIK : Even from the point of view of the currency of an idea, I would suggest that when we take the spirit of the Bill, with the local identification of the masses and in particular illiterate ones, the simple ones and the arthy ones and the salt of the earth, their views may also be taken. If these are not preserved, there will always be devotees in the big temples and they will be taken care of, but those small ones which are in the stage of crumbling, if they are not preserved, would very soon face extinction at the hands not only of land-grabbers but also other people and also the forces of nature.

I would, therefore, urge the hon. Minister to take a fresh look, particularly at the southern part of the country in regard to the native sort of religion and the native sort of temples that are there, and give them a fair deal.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE (Calcutta-North-East) : I fear I find this Bill rather misconceived. I can have some sympathy for the idea that serious efforts should be made to associate the States and popular sentiments in the different parts of our country with the task of preservation of our archaeological monuments of every variety. I can understand a claim being put forward by a particular State, if it thinks itself justified that there has been default on the part of the Centre, in so far as the preservation of the archaeologi-

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cal sites is concerned, and they want to take it over. I may not agree to it straightway but I can understand it. But I do not understand at all the idea of the Mover of this Bill which in so far as his intention formulated in black and white is concerned, in terms of the proposed legislation would require that a State Government on the strength of a majority in the Assembly should be authorised to install, erect, build or construct suitable memorials for a person who is according to their Bill a founder or builder or originator of an idea, for the installation etc. of such a monument and so on and so forth. He wishes also that this kind of installing and erecting and constructing or building of suitable memorials would add to the historicity of such monuments.

I am sorry to have to say that I find it rather fantastic. The historicity of a monument is marred and destroyed and not only distorted if the kind of thing which is proposed to be done is actually done. A monument is there to be preserved and it is on the basis of very expert assessment that monuments which require protection because they deserve to be preserved are preserved. The historicity of the monument and the strength and all that would be utterly distorted if additions, alterations or renovations which are not in tune are made, because it is a very difficult job of work, and if anything is done to mar the artistic integrity of a monument and the historical character of the monument, the entire purpose of archaeological preservation is gone.

Then all this talk about our eliciting pride in the past of our country by a look at these monuments is so much abracadabra. Either we respect these monuments or we do not. I believe we all respect these monuments, specially in Tamil Nadu where they had a movement based on the idea of the resurgence of the Tamil people. They look back to a very glorious past. Naturally they were proud, and we all share their pride, because the culture of Tamil Nadu is not something which is relative only to the area which is now called Tamil Nadu.

My friend here is very naturally concerned over the Brihadiswar temple in Tanjavur. He refers to the Chola emperors. Very rightly so. But he should not draw so much of a distinction between the north and the south in this regard. As for the temple complex of Gangaikonda Cholapuram built by the great Chola emperor, I do wish it is taken care of a great deal more than if is as it was crumbling away the last time I saw it. I wish the Tamil Nadu Government in association with the Central Government takes real steps to see to it that a place which is not visited by pilgrims or even by the average tourist is really looked after, because it is a grand place, Gangaikonda Cholapuram, where a replica of the Brihadiswara temple was built by one of the Chola emperors.

Now the Gangaikonda Cholapuram temple is a memorial to the fact that a Chola emperor went north and won a victory. His visit to the north was occasioned by the idea of collecting Ganga water which he could take back in large vessels. And it was taken back in very large vessels to Tamil Nadu. It was in order that the pious idea of a Tamil emperor could be satisfied that he had gone and fought some powers in the north.

There is no quarrel between the north and the south. On the contrary, you will find in every southern temple site people from the north, in large numbers, because there is a sense of kindship in so far as all parts of our country are concerned. In so far as the archaeological, the aesthetic and the artistic excellence of the remains are concerned, there is no difference in so far as even religious persuasions are concerned. An atheist like myself or people who have no faith in the gods and goddesses of the Hindu pantheon, people who belong to other religions have also an appreciation of the aesthetic qualities of these monuments. So there is no question of driving a wedge or even imagining that a wedge exists as between either the north

and the south or as between Tamil Nad or any other State. We are all concerned about this. But I am particularly concerned if any suggestion is made which changes the character of a historical monument. I say this because I had the mortification of seeing even in Madurai—Shri Naik is here; he was saying something about the great temple of Madurai which everybody will share—I had the mortification of seeing how the *facade*, the front portion, of the temple, the *gopuram*, the gate, through which you enter, had been renovated and painted over with all sorts of garish colours. I saw that described very eloquently in some American Journal as something of an aesthetic addition. But I considered that a profanity; I considered that an utter degradation, an act which was by no means warranted. You have no business to do anything to change the character of the glory of an ancient monument in that fashion.

This sort of thing has to be guarded against. We never know what would happen, if we leave it to a Legislative Assembly by vote to decide on something. I was told that in the courtyard of the Brihadiswara temple in Tanjavur, the idea was to put up something constructed by a modern sculptor. We know the way they usually do it, the kind of work they would turn out. Perhaps a monument of Raja Ruja the Great was to be put up there inside the temple. I think this a fantastic proposition, a profane proposition, something which goes against the grain of faith, of tradition, of artistic belief, of any sort of integrity that we can think of in connection with a historical monument. I would not leave that sort of thing to the whims and caprices of a particular Legislative Assembly at a particular point of time.

I see that this kind of thing does take place in our country, and I am just reminded of what I have seen in Kanya Kumari. It was a grand panorama, as you must have known, before the recent constructions took place on the Vivekananda Rock. It was a beautiful temple with no particular pretensions, not so massive as the other temples of the South, but entirely in keeping with the beautiful natural surroundings of that area. And there, about 15 or so years ago, they built a Gandhi Mantap which has nothing to look at, which is an abomination, but which is right on the sea and spoils the entire seacoast. The atmosphere was preserved as a little place so that the pilgrims who went to Kanya Kumari temple could go and have their bath; it was an old place but it had broken down; but a lovely little thing it was. Now, it is shadowed over by the Gandhi Mantap, and over the Vivekananda Rock, we have got an enormous construction which many people may consider to be a very wonderful thing, but I consider it to be a garish and uncivilised act of vandalism which not only destroys the natural glory and beauty of that place but militates utterly against the whole concept—the Kanya Kumari temple on the one side and the wide expanse of the three oceans which commingle at the same place, on the other.

If you leave it to some PWD contractor and if you leave it to the whim and caprice of some particular temple at a particular point of time in a very special mood, goaded by certain people who do not know a thing about the genuine aspects of our essential national culture, then what happens? Things might go to rack and ruin. The only way in which you can preserve these things is to leave the matters in the hands of people who know and who, at the same time, can be trusted to have a genuine respect for our national culture. That is why we have archaeologists and scholars and such other people who would look after these things.

Therefore, if the idea was that the State young men should be associated in a more effective way with the task of preservation, I could very well support this Bill, but if the idea is, as it appears to be, that at the desire of the State Assemblies or even of Parliament, monuments could be changed and other structures could be put up in the premises of historical monuments, then I at least for one, would never

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have anything to do with it. If the Brahadeeswar temple or such other wonderful monuments of our country's genius are going to be spoiled and despoiled and depraved by any kind of addition of the sort which sometimes is in the contemplation of very powerful politicians, then, let us say good-bye to all talk of archaeological conservation.

Let Kaveripattinam be looked after properly; let excavation be conducted very properly. Let the State Government go to the Central authorities in order to see to it that Kaveripattinam is really investigated and everything is done in order to respect its integrity and its contribution to India's history. That is a different matter. But if you have this kind of Bill, it means that we say good-bye to all ideas of archaeological conservation. We must keep the sites as they are; we must keep the monuments as they are, and we must keep them and keep them in repair so that they do not crumble down as long as we can avoid that sort of thing happening. But this kind of tampering with our archaeological treasures is something which goes against the grain and which cannot be tolerated.

SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI (Lakhimpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the anxiety of the hon. Member for the protection of ancient monuments and sites can very well be appreciated, but I fail to understand why these sites or monuments should be handed over to the State Governments.

Sir, the land of Tamil Nadu is full of monuments, ancient ruins and other things of which not only the people of that region but I should say the people of the entire length and breadth of our country is proud of. The hon. Member referred to the Chola kings who built certain monuments. They built not only monuments in the South but some of them crossed the Indian Ocean and constructed and built monuments in modern Indonesia in Angkor Vat. Those people had built those magnificent monuments. These are the monuments not only of ancient times but they are living monuments of the entire nation of the achievements of the people who lived in those ancient days.

Mr. Naik has referred to certain things being sold, jokingly. But being a student of history I should like to mention that at the time of Lord Benting's viceroyship, he made a proposal to the British Government for destroying the Taj Mahal and selling the marbles for earning some money. Fortunately that proposal was not approved.

There are certain monuments of national importance which are protected by the archaeological department of the Government of India but there are certain other monuments which are not so declared. I have seen that in some parts of the country these monuments are not well protected. I cannot say definitely about Tamil Nadu but in Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Assam I have travelled extensively. There are hundreds of such monuments and ancient sites which are not protected by the Central Government. These can be preserved, protected and maintained by the State Governments but the State Governments are not coming up as expected. I am myself associated with such an organisation which is located in Assam. We have made repeated appeals to the Archaeological department of the Central Government to take over certain monuments and ancient temples which are not protected because the State Government is not in a position to maintain, protect or preserve those monuments. It might be a different case in Tamil Nadu. I have no knowledge about Tamil Nadu. Perhaps, except the Government of Tamil Nadu, no State Government will welcome this proposal.

I mentioned earlier that in 1904 Lord Curzon introduced this Act for the preservation of ancient monuments. He was responsible for the bifurcation of Bengal. Therefore, in Assam and Bengal he was known as wicked Curzon. But he has

really done good service to the country and, therefore, we are grateful to him. That Act was amended recently and its scope had been widened. It was because of that Act that we have come to know what was in Mohanjedaro and Harappa. It is due to the activities of the Central Archaeological Department that such things came to light and the world, at large, came to know that even 6000 years ago there was a civilisation in India which was equal to the Elim or the Babylonia or even superior to those civilisations. Therefore, the Central Government should provide more money to strengthen the Archeological Department and take more interest in the construction, preservation and maintenance of those monuments, temples and ancient sites.

The repair work in these monuments should be carried out by skilled persons. The originality of the structure is to be maintained. Suppose some structure is cracking. When it is going to be repaired, modern cement concrete, as it is, cannot be used, because if used, the beauty, the originality and the colour or even the stuctural frame will be changed if not destroyed. The historicity of that monument will no longer be there. Therefore, the Central Government's Archaeological Department should have more skilled persons who will not only be efficient in repair work but will also have historical knowledge about the construction of our ancient monuments.

Sir, if anything new is constructed or added to ancient temples, as Prof. Mukherjee has rightly pointed out, it will not only destroy the beauty but it will surely take away the historical importance of that place. Historical importance or the historicity of a particular temple or a particular monument or a particular site cannot be enhanced by new additions or modern additions. Therefore, the idea of constructing some buildings or erecting something in the ancient monument sites, is totally misconceived and no student of History and no student of Architecture will support it. Experts all over the world, who are connected with such preservation of ancient monuments will surely oppose such proposals morally.

Sir, in this connection, I would like to refer to my State of Assam and other eastern States and Union Territories. As far as archaeology is concerned, this Region is under the jurisdiction of Calcutta—the Superintendent posted at Calcutta looks after the preservation of these ancient monuments. There are quite a number of them in this region. But, to look after these monuments, there is only a Sectional Officer in Assam with a meagre fund at his disposal. I would like to give an example. There is a Shiv temple in the Sibsagar district of Assam, and for the maintenance of the temple, only Rs. 120 is provided. Persons who will be able to climb to the top of the temple, are not available. Such persons should have special skill and training and their daily wages should be much more than the ordinary labour. With meagre amounts, they cannot do anything. I am just giving this one instance. There are a number of such instances. Therefore, I would appeal to the hon. Minister, on this occasion, that the five States of the Eastern Region and the two Union Territories should be made one Archaeological Zone and one Superintendent should be posted there to look after the ancient monuments there so that these are preserved and people from various parts of the country are able to see and appreciate them.

I would like to make one more suggestion. Of course, it does not concern the Minister of Education. To my mind, the protection and preservation of ancient monuments is related with the growth of tourism and therefore, they should be transferred to the Ministry of Tourism.

श्री मधु लिमये (बांका) : इस विधेयक के जरिये पुरातत्व विभाग के कामों पर बोलने का मौका हम लोगों को मिला है। सब से पहले मैं यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि पुरातत्व विभाग के द्वारा यह जो प्राचीन और ऐतिहासिक अवशेष हैं, स्थल हैं, मन्दिर हैं,

[श्री मधु लिमये]

मस्जिद हैं, प्रसाद हैं, उनकी उपेक्षा की जा रही है। मुझे आदत है कि अपने दौरे में मैं कुछ समय जरूर निकालता हूं ऐसे स्थलों पर आने के लिए। एक प्रसंग मुझे याद आता है—मैं कर्णाटक के दौरे पर था—अहिलाएं नाम की एक जगह है, वहां एक बहुत खूबसूरत प्राचीन मन्दिर है, उस को देखने के लिए गया था। न केवल उसकी उपेक्षा की जा रही थी, बल्कि यह देख कर मैं दंग रह गया कि मूंगफली सुखाने के लिए पूरे मन्दिर में फैलाई गई थी। ऐसी बात नहीं है कि इस मन्दिर को पुरातत्व विभाग ने अपनी देखरेख में नहीं लिया था। इस वक्त इस मन्दिर की क्या हालत है, मैं नहीं जानता, क्योंकि यह 10-12 साल पहले की बात है। उसी तरह कई जगहों पर मैंने देखा, मैं इसी उत्तर प्रदेश के चुनाव के दौरे के सिलसिले में कुशीनगर गया था वहां यह देखकर मुझे अचम्भा हो गया कि वहां जो तिब्बती या मोटिया साधू वगैरह लोग रहते हैं—मैं उनके खिलाफ कुछ बोलना नहीं चाहता हूं—लेकिन जिस ढंग से उस जगह को गन्दा करने का काम चल रहा है तो एक साधू से मैंने कहा कि यह बुद्ध भगवान के महापरिनिर्वाण का परम स्थान है, आप बुद्ध के अनुयायी हैं, इस जगह को गन्दा करने का काम करेंगे तो क्या होगा? मैं ऐसे कई उदाहरण दे सकता हूं। यह मैं ने मिसाल के तौर पर कहा है। इसलिए मंत्री महोदय को इस बात पर विशेष ध्यान देना चाहिए और पुरातत्व विभाग से मेरा ख्याल है हर साल उनको रपट मंगानी चाहिए कि आपके कब्जे में जितने मन्दिर, मस्जिद या जो भी प्राचीन स्थल और स्मारक दिए गए हैं उनकी स्थिति क्या है। इस तरह की रपट अगर कलेक्टर, या जो भी उनका नाम है, उनसे प्राप्त करने की आप कोशिश करेंगे तो मेरा ख्याल है आप यहां से ज्यादा उनकी देख-रेख कर सकेंगे और अगर मरम्मत के लिए खर्चे की जरूरत है तो उसके बारे में भी ठीक ढंग से विचार कर सकेंगे। मैंने देखा है कि इस देश में कई ऐसे छोटे छोटे मन्दिर या दूसरे स्मारक हैं जो पुरातत्व विभाग ने अपने हाथ में नहीं लिए लेकिन उनका अपना सांस्कृतिक महत्व है और अगर केन्द्रीय सरकार उन स्मारकों की देखरेख और निगरानी नहीं रख सकती है तो इस बात पर सरकार को विचार करना चाहिए कि क्या यह अधिकार वर्तमान संविधान में हम लोग राज्य सरकारों को दे सकते हैं क्योंकि इसमें जो केन्द्रीय सूची है, जो एन्ट्री है उसमें यह कहा गया है कि पार्लियामेंन्ट जिन स्थानों को और जिन अवशेषों को महत्वपूर्ण समझती है और उसके लिए कानून बनाती है उन्ही को केन्द्रीय सरकार लेगी। तो ऐसी हालत में जो स्थान ऐसे हैं जिनको आप लेने की स्थिति में नहीं है उसके लिए इसमें क्या दिक्कत है?

एन्ट्री 67 इस प्रकार है :—

"Ancient and historical monuments and records and archaeological sites and remains, declared by or under law made by Parliament to be of national importance."

तो राष्ट्रीय महत्व के जो अवशेष और स्मारक हैं उन्हीं को आप ले लेते हैं। सभी स्मारकों को आप पुरातत्व विभाग के तहत नहीं ले पायेंगे, यह मैं भी जानता हूं। इसलिए इनके अलावा जो स्थान हैं उनकी रक्षा करने का कोई उपाय हम लोगों को करना चाहिए। यह अधिकार राज्य सरकारों को देना चाहिए और अगर उसमें कोई संवैधानिक दिक्कत है तो बगल में नीतिराज सिंह जी बठे हैं वे उसका कोई रास्ता निकालेंगे।

आपने एक ऐंटीक्वीटीज एड आर्ट्स ट्रेजर्स एक्ट बनाया है जिसके प्राविधान बहुत अच्छे हैं और आवश्यक भी हैं लेकिन मैं जानना चाहता हूं इसके तहत अभी तक क्या काम हुआ है? जैसे जो पुराने शिल्प आदि हैं, मूर्तियां हैं, उनकी सभी लोग जानते हैं बड़े पमाने पर चोरी हो रही है और इसमें जो आपके रक्षक हैं वे लोग भी मिले हुए हैं जिसका नतीजा यह हो रहा है कि हर दो तीन साल के बाद जब पुराने किसी मन्दिर को, किसी स्मारक को देखने जाते हैं तो इस बात का अहसास होता है कि इसमें कुछ तोड़-मरोड़ हुई है, कुछ मूर्तियों को हटाया गया है और कुछ विध्वंसक काम किया गया है। इसलिये मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि निर्यात पर प्रतिबंध लगाने के बाद इस सेक्शन को भंग करने के अभियोग में अब तक कितनी कार्यवाहियां हुई हैं। इसी से इसका पता चलेगा क्योंकि आप लोग कानून तो पास करते जाते हैं, कानूनों की इस देश में कमी नहीं है लेकिन उन पर अमल नहीं हो रहा है। इसलिये मन्त्री महोदय

स्पष्ट करें कि यह अधिनियम बनने के बाद कितने लोगों के खिलाफ कार्यवाहियां की गईं, कितनी मूर्तियों और दूसरे अवशेषों को बचाया गया ?

इसके साथ-साथ इसमें एक महत्वपूर्ण सेक्शन 14 भी है। इस देश में निजी व्यक्तियों के पास प्राचीन, ऐतहासिक महत्व के शल्प और मूर्तियां हो सकती हैं तथा दूसरे बहुत सारे सामान हो सकते हैं। और आजकल तो देश में फैशन हो गया है, अगर मंत्री महोदय कुछ बड़े लोगों के घर जायगे तो उनको पता चलेगा और इस तरह की चीजें उनको वहां मिलगी। आपने इस कानून के तहत यह कहा है कि लोग इन चोजों को अपने पास रखें जरूर लेकिन उसकी जानकारी सरकार को मिलनी चाहिए और उसको रजिस्टर कराना चाहिए। मैं जानना चाहता हूं इस 14वें सक्शन पर आपने कोई अमल किया है ? मैं तो इसको बहुत बड़ी सम्पत्ति मानता हूं। अब तक कितने लोगों ने रजिस्टर करवाने का काम किया है ?

साथ साथ इसमें एक और प्राविधान है। आप सभी लोग जानते हैं कि आब्जेक्टस आफ आर्टस की एक बहुत बड़ी मण्डी है। विदेशों में जो अमीर देश हैं उनमें इसकी बहुत बड़ी मण्डी है और हम लोग अखबारों में पढ़ते हैं कि फलां फलां पेंटिंग का दाम नीलाम में कितना बोला गया। लेकिन इस देश में भी जब से साल्वे साहब बहुत परिणामकारक ढंग से काम करने लगे तो ऐसे बहुत से सारे लोग पैसा बचाने के—मैं उनका मजाक नहीं कर रहा हूं, नाराज न हो जायें—उन लोगों को पैसा बचाने का मौका मिला है। वह लोगों को क्या सिखाते हैं ? How to avoid taxes. मैं यह नहीं कह रहा हूं he teaches them also to evade taxes . . (व्यवधान) एवायडेन्स तो लीगल है। तो इस तरह के लोग हमारे देश में हो गए हैं और यह फैशन है कि बहुत सारे लोग इस तरह की चीजें खरीदते हैं लेकिन आपके सैक्शन 17 में यह प्राविधान है इस तरह की जो बिक्री होगी, उसमें तो विनिमय, ट्रांसफर भी है, तो उसकी भी जानकारी सरकार को देनी चहिए ताकि जरूरत पड़ने पर, सरकार ने यह अधिकार लिया है कि उस कलाकृति को सरकार अपने हाथ में भी ले सकती है उसका मुआविजा देकर। मैं नहीं चाहता कि उनकी चीजें आप ले लें लेकिन जानकारी तो रखिये, रजिस्ट्रेशन तो होना चाहिए और यह भी देखना चाहिए, समय समय पर उनसे पत्र-व्यवहार करके कि उन कलाकृतियों की स्थिति क्या है। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि प्राचीन या ऐतिहासिक यह जो सारी चीजें हैं यह आने वाली पीढ़ियों की विरासत हैं लेकिन इधर 10-15 वर्षों में आजादी के बाद उनकी रक्षा करने के बजाय, नयी नयी चीजों की खोज करने के बजाये, जिन चीजों की खोज हो चुकी थी, जिनकी सारी दुनिया में तारीफ हुई थी वह चीजें भी इस देश से बाहर चली जा रही हैं। हम लोगों को वैसे रोटी भी नहीं मिल रही थी और मानसिक आनन्द जो इन कलाकृतियों को देखकर मिलता था उसको भी आप छिनने देंगे तो फिर मेरा खयाल है यहां का जीवन बहुत ही नीरस हो जायेगा और आने वाली पीढ़ियों के मन में भारत की कोई प्रतिमा, तेजस्वी प्रतिमा नहीं रह पायेगी।

16.38 hrs.

[SHRI NAVAL KISHORE SINHA *in the Chair*].

मैं कोई लम्बा भाषण नहीं करना चाहता, इनका जो विधेयक है उसी पर आ रहा हूं क्योंकि जब यह सारी चीजें होंगी तभी इनके विधेयक का मतलब है। अगर यह कलाकृतियां रहेंगी ही नहीं, यह मंदिर सब जमींदोज हो जायेंगे और सारी मूर्तियां विदेशों में चली जायगी तो यह शोल राजा की मूर्ति लगाकर वहां क्या करेंगे ? वह केवल मूर्ति मात्र रह जायगी। इसलिए मैं उसका विरोध नहीं कर रहा हूं, मैं समर्थन कर रहा हूं क्योंकि एक शिक्षा की दृष्टि से भी इस तरह के स्मारक लोग बनायगे, राज्य सरकारें बनायगी तो जो अपने लड़के हैं, नौजवान लोग हैं वह देखने के लिए जाते हैं उनको भी कुछ पता चलेगा कि भाई शोल राजा राजा का बनाया हुआ यह मन्दिर है। मैं तंजोर मन्दिर की बात कर रहा हूं। तो इस तरह के मन्दिर किस राजा या व्यक्ति ने बनाये इस प्रकार की जो ऐतिहासिक महत्व की बातें हैं यह भी नई पीढ़ी को मालूम हो जायगी। इसलिए इसके बिल का विरोध नहीं कर रहा हूं, बल्कि समर्थन कर रहा हूं, लेकिन

[श्री मधु लिमये]

साथ साथ यह चाहता हूं कि इस के बारे में आप विधान सभा को अधिकार दे सकते हैं। लेकिन मूर्ति आदि लगाने के पहले केन्द्र में कोई कमेटी आप बनाय क्योंकि हर एक आदमी अपने ढंग से करने लगेगा तो उसकी जो शोभा है उसमें कुछ कलंक लग सकता है। मैं यह नहीं कर रहा हूं। जान बूझ कर होगा, लेकिन आप जानते हैं कि राजनीति में तरह तरह के दबाव आते हैं। इसलिए कोई केन्द्रीय समिति रहे उसकी सलाह से ही कोई मूर्ति स्थापित की जाय।

इसमें मूर्तियों को स्थापित करने की बात कही गयी है। अगर इसके लिए संवैधानिक संशोधन जरूरी है तो मैं कहूंगा कि राज्यों को अन्य मौन्यूमेंटस की रक्षा करने के लिए आप संवधानिक अधिकार दीजिय और हर एक राज्य पर छोड़ दीजिये। मेरा खयाल है कि सारे राज्य पूरी जिम्मेदारी की भावना रखते हुए ऐसे सारे मौन्यूमेंटस की रक्षा करेंगे जिस का भार आप नहीं ले सकते हैं।

श्री शिवनाथ सिंह (झुंझुनू) : सभापति, जी, हमारे देश में पुरातत्व महत्व के अनेक स्थल हैं, बहुत से मन्दिर हैं, अनेक प्रकार की मूर्तियां हैं और इस देश का उनकी तरफ ध्यान जाना बहुत ही आवश्यक है। मैं इस अवसर पर यह कहना चाहता हूं कि इनकी स्थिति, जो गति आज इन महत्वपूर्ण स्थलों की, मर्तियों की या जो अन्य स्मारक हैं, उनकी हो रही है वह सभी के लिए एक चिन्ता का विषय है। माननीय सदस्य ने इस बिल के द्वारा यह चाहा है कि जो भी व्यक्ति या समुदाय या कोई भी जिस का इन पुरातत्व महत्व के स्थलों के निर्माण में या इस प्रकार के स्मारकों के निर्माण में या मूर्ति कला आदि के स्थापन करने में योग रहा उनकी भी प्रतिमा हम स्थापित करें। मेरे खयाल में सिद्धांत रूप में इसमें कोई विरोध नहीं होना चाहिए। लेकिन हमें देखना पड़गा कि क्या इन स्मारकों के बनाने में पुराने स्मारकों का रूप तो नहीं बिगाड़ रहे हैं? क्योंकि नये स्मारक देश में हमेशा बनते रहे हैं और आगे भी बनते रहेंगे। आज यदि आप असेम्बली के द्वारा किसी को अधिकार नहीं दोग तो भी किसी को स्मारक बनाने से नहीं रोक सकते। इनका उद्देश्य यही है कि उस स्थल के आसपास भी स्मारक बने। यदि केन्द्रीय पुरातत्व विभाग के पास वह स्थल है तो उसके आसपास कहीं बना सकते हैं। देखना यही है कि कहां बनेगा, कहां नहीं और यदि इस प्रकार का कोई महापुरुष करता है। जिन्होंने अच्छी चीजें हमें दी हैं तो उन के स्मारक बनायें, उचित जगह बनायें। इसमें किसी का मतभेद नहीं हो सकता, और इसमें किसी को एतराज नहीं होना चाहिए। लेकिन मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि जितने भी राष्ट्रीय, अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय महत्व की मूर्तियां हैं उन का आज क्या हो रहा है? हमारी राज्य सरकारें और केन्द्रीय सरकार उनकी रक्षा करने में असमर्थ हैं, और हम आये दिन देखते हैं, अखबारों में पढ़ते हैं कि आज वह मूर्ति चोरी चली गयी, कल फलां जगह की मूर्ति चोरी चली गयी, और उन की कीमत कहीं लाखों में और कही हजारों में होती है। आज इस देश में या किसी देहात में एक पड़ी हुई मूर्ति गांव वालों के लिए 5 रु० की भी नहीं हो सकती है, लेकिन विदेशों में वही मूर्ति कई लाख की बिकती है। और इस देश में इस प्रकार का गिरोह फैला हुआ है और बड़े बड़े सरकारी और पुलिस अधिकारी इस काम में लग हुए हैं और मूर्ति चोरी करने वाले गिरोह को संरक्षण दे रहे हैं। पिछले दिनों राजस्थान के आंकड़े पेश हुए थे। और सभा में कहा गया था कि मूर्तियों की चोरी के मामलों में हिन्दुस्तान में राजस्थान का दूसरा नम्बर आता है। मुझे व्यक्तिगत जानकारी है और मुझे अधिकारियों के नाम मालम हैं, लेकिन मैं यहां नाम नहीं लेना चाहता, सरकारी लिखा पढ़ी हुई है, जितने भी चोरी के मुकदमे बने हैं, इन्वेस्टीगेशन हुआ है उसमें हमारे प्रान्त के भूतपूर्व बड़े बड़े पुलिस अधिकारियों का नाम आया है और इन्वेस्टीगेशन आफिसर्स ने राज्य सरकार को होम सैक्रेट्री को, चीफ़ सेक्रेट्री को शिकायत भेजी हैं। लेकिन क्या होता है?

अब राज्य सरकार को नये मौन्यूमेंटस बनाने की इजाजत दे दो, लेकिन पुरानी जगहों की रक्षा तो कर नहीं पाते हैं और चोरी करने वाले गिरोह को चैक नहीं कर पाते हैं और बड़े अधिकारिओं के संरक्षण में यह सब होता है, इस ओर मंत्री महोदय ध्यान देंगे। हो सकता है कि उनके विभाग का यह काम न हो, पुलिस विभाग का हो सकता है। लेकिन पुरातत्व विभाग इसमें दिलचस्पी ले और जो महत्वपूर्ण हमारे पास धरोहर है उस को सुरक्षित रखें। यदि

सुरक्षित नहीं रखते तो जैसा माननीय सदस्य कह रहे थे कि बहुत ही फौरेन ऐक्सचेंज आ सकती है, मेरी राय है कि अपनी इस धरोहर को फौरेन एक्सचेंज में हमें नहीं बदलना चाहिए। यह हमारी धरोहर है। आज बहुत सा सामान चोरी हो कर बाहर जा रहा है। इसलिए राज्य सरकारों को हिदायत कर के और केन्द्रीय सरकार तथा उस के अन्य विभाग, चाहे पुलिस विभाग हो या पुरातत्व विभाग हो, इस मामले में दिलचस्पी लें और इनकी रक्षा की जाय।

जहां तक दिल की भावना है मैं इस का समर्थन करता हूं, लेकिन वह किस जगह बने और किस जगह नहीं बने संविधान को ठीक किया जा सकता है। और यदि यहां इजाजत नहीं दी जाय उसके बाद भी राज्य सरकारों को पूर्ण अधिकार है कि वह नये मौन्यूमेंटस बना सकते हैं। लेकिन जिन लोगों ने उन मौन्यूमेंटस को बनाया उन की सिर्फ मूर्तियां, जैसा माननीय लिमय जी कह रहे थे, उन की सिर्फ मूर्तियां ही रह जायेंगी और जो पुरानी चीजें हैं, जो आर्ट हैं हमारे देश में वह सब गायब हो जायगा। इसलिए उसका संरक्षण पहले जरूरी है। नयी मूर्तियां बाद में बनायें, यह बाद की बात है।

इन शब्दों के साथ मेरा भारत सरकार के गृह मंत्रालय से निवेदन है क्यों कि प्रान्तों की सरकारें, वहां का गृह विभाग इन सब चोरियों को रोकने में असमर्थ हैं, सरकारी अफसरों की चोरों से मिली भगत है। इसलिए केन्द्रीय सरकार का गृह मंत्रालय इस ओर ध्यान दें और इस प्रकार की जो पुरातत्व महत्व की चीजें हैं, स्मारक हैं या अवशेष हैं उनकी रक्षा की जाय और चोरी उन को बचाया जाय।

श्री मूलचन्द डागा (पाली) : सभापति जी, मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूं। मैं नहीं समझ सका कि इस में क्या एतराज की बात है, और शिक्षा मंत्री जी जब बोलेंगे तो यह नहीं कहूंगा कि इस में एतराज के काबिल बात है। यदि कोई अपने स्मारक के पास, अगर उसकी यादगार को कायम रखने के लिए स्टेट लेजिस्लेटिव असेम्बली उस की खूबसूरती को बनाये रखे हुए अगर एक सूटेबिल जगह पर कोई स्मारक बनाता है तो इसको हम औब्जक्शनेबिल कैसे कह सकते हैं? आप अगर कुछ नहीं कर सकते तो जो उन्होंने लिखा है :

> Build or construct a suitable memorial in or near or in the vicinity of a protected monument or a protected area to perpectuate the memory of the person. . . .

That is after the Resolution or the decision taken by the Legislative Assemble.

सभापति महोदय : मैं आप से एक बात जानना चाहता हूं, अगर कुछ रोशनी डाल सकें तो डालें। क्या इस विधेयक को पारित करने के पूर्व संविधान की तीनों सूचियों में कुछ परिवर्तन नहीं करना पड़ेगा?

श्री मूलचन्द डागा : जी नहीं, क्योंकि यह तो कानकरेंट पावर्स हैं। आरक्योलाजी सेन्टर और स्टेट गवर्नमेंटस दोनों डील करती हैं। स्टेट लाज भी इस को देखते हैं। इस का कोई झगड़ा नहीं है। इसके अन्दर इन्होंने यह कहा है कि सैक्शन 20 के बाद सेक्शन 20(ए) जोड़ दिया जाय, और जब कभी भी उस मौन्यूमेंटस में :

> "If we want to erect any new monument then it will be done after the approval of the Legislative Assembly."

तो असेम्बली का ऐप्रूवल होने के बाद।

> "Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act or in any other law for the time being in force, the Legislative Assembly of the State within the territory of which a protected monument or a protected area is situated, may, by resolution, authorise the Government of that State to instal, erect, build or construct." . . .

तो इस के अन्दर

The State Government is entitled to erect this.

[श्री मूलचन्द डागा]

अब सवाल यह है कि पुरातत्व विभाग का बजट कितना है ? कितना बजट है इस का आप के पास ? मुझे डाउट है कि जितना आप के पास इस का बजट है, उस से आप हिन्दुस्तान जितना बड़ा देश है, उस के तमाम स्मारकों का संरक्षण कर सकते हैं। अगर आप को 15 रुपये की जरूरत है, तो आप के पास इस काम के लिए केवल एक रुपया है। आप के पास इस काम के लिए पर्याप्त बजट नहीं है। आप कहीं भी पुराने स्मारकों को देखने जाए, वहां पर आप पाएंगे कि बहुत पुराने बोर्ड लगे हुए हैं, 25, 25 साल पुराने बोर्ड लगे हुए हैं और वे इतने पुराने हो गये हैं कि उन का पढ़ना भी बहुत मुश्किल है। पुरातत्व विभाग एक पुराना विभाग है और पुराने ही बोर्ड वहां पर लगे हुए हैं। उन स्मारकों में पुराने ही लोग-बाग बैठे हुए हैं, जिन की हालत देखने वाली ही है। वैसे ही वहां पर आप को गाइड मिलते हैं और वही फ़िलास्फ़र और आप के फ्रेंड हैं। वे क्या बातें आप को सिखाते हैं। पता नहीं कहां के लोग आ कर वहां पर बैठे जाते हैं और कैसी कैसी बात सिखाते हैं ... (व्यवधान) ... वे ऐसी कहानियां और गाथाएं सुनाते हैं जो कि हम ने कहीं हिस्ट्री में नहीं पढ़ी हैं और जिन को हिस्ट्री लिखने वाला भी नहीं जानता और हमारे मधु लिमय जी उन की बातों का आनन्द लेते हैं। ये बड़े इतिहासिज्ञ होंगे, बड़ कलाकार होंग लेकिन मैं तो इतना ही कहूंगा कि हम को अच्छे गाइड वहां पर रखने चाहिएं। हम पुरानी चीजों को छोड़ें और नई नई चीजें लाएं। हमारी कुछ पुरानी चीजें ऐसी हैं जिन में अब हमें कोई आकर्षण नहीं है और नाम के लिए ही पुरातत्व विभाग ने उन को रखा है। इसलिए एक बात तो मुझे यह कहनी है कि इस विभाग का कोई बजट नहीं है। अगर आप इस के बजट को एग्जामिन कराएं, तो इस का डाइरेक्टर भी यही कहेगा कि इस का कोई बजट नहीं है। ... (व्यवधान) ...

दूसरी बात मुझे यह कहनी है कि पुरातत्व विभाग में कुछ ऐसे स्मारक हैं, जिन को आप बन्द कीजिए। इतने बड़े बड़े व स्मारक हैं, पुराने किले हैं और उन के अन्दर मैदान खुले पड़े हैं। वहां पर आप मकान बनने दो और बच्चों के लिए वहां पर खेल के मैदान हों। उन को भी आप ने पुरातत्व विभाग में रख छोड़ा है। कई राजाओं महाराजाओं के बड़े बड़े मकान हैं। उन को पुरातत्व विभाग में रखने की क्या जरूरत है। कुछ ऐसी जगहें हैं जिन में कुछ नहीं रहा है और मैं समझता हूं कि उन को आप को बन्द करना चाहिए। मेरी यह राय भी नहीं है कि पुरातत्व विभाग के नाम पर आप बड़ी बड़ी जमीनें और मन्दिर रखें, जिन मंदिरों में कोई आर्ट नहीं रह गया है। जो आर्ट था, वह खत्म हो गया है और वहां पर केवल जमीन ही रह गई है। आप उस जमीन का उपयोग करिये। जमीनों को आप ने क्यों रख छोड़ा है। उन स्थलों के पास बड़े बड़े किले बने हुए हैं। वहां क्या है ? वहां अब कुछ नहीं रह गया है और जुआरी लोग वहां पर जुआ खेलते हैं। यह उन लोगों के जुआ खेलने के अड्डे बन गये हैं।

श्री बी०बी० नायक : आप एनशियन्ट रूइंस के बारे में कह रहे हैं ? क्या आप यह एनशियन्ट मानूमेंट्स के बारे में कह रहे हैं ?

श्री मूल चन्द डागा : मैं यह कह रहा हूं कि उन को आप रखिये, लेकिन कुछ मानूमेंट्स पुरातत्व विभाग के ऐसे हैं, जिन पर बड़े बड़े मकान बने हुए हैं और वे किसी काम के नहीं हैं। मेरा कहना यह है कि उन का कुछ उपयोग होना चाहिए। आप इस पुरातत्व विभाग में इस एक्ट को एमेंड करिये और जो आप की पुरानी कला-कृतियां हैं, उन को आप रखिये, जो आप के इतिहास से सम्बन्ध स्मारक हैं, उन को आप रखिय लेकिन जो आप के बिल्कुल काम के नहीं हैं उन को आप डिस्पोज आफ कीजिए और उन को बेचने से जो पैसा आप के पास आए, उस को आप दूसरी जगहों पर लगाइए।

आप यह देखिये कि जितने पुराने स्थान हैं उन पर कितने लोग जाते हैं और यात्री पता नहीं क्या-क्या लिख देते हैं। वे कोयले से बोर्ड को ब्लैक-बोर्ड बना देते हैं। इस को कोई देखने वाला नहीं है। वहां पर बहुत सारे शिक्षक भी जाते हैं और अपने दस्तखत कर के आ जाते हैं लेकिन आप यह देखें कि लोग कितनी बुरी तरह से इन स्मारकों के साथ पेश आते हैं और क्या क्या लिख देते हैं ... (व्यवधान) ...

इसलिए मेरा कहना यह है कि मैं इस विधेयक के अन्दर कोई आब्जेक्शन नहीं देखता हूं और जो मेरे सुझाव हैं, उन को मान कर आर्किओलाजिकल डिपार्टमेंट पुरातत्व विभाग इंप्रूवमेंट करें। आप कलाकार हैं, आप शिक्षक हैं और आप सब कुछ हैं, आप इस में नई

जान डालिये। नई जिन्दगी फूंकने के लिए यह एक बहुत अच्छा विषय है। इन स्मारकों में ऐसा इम्प्रूवमेंट आप को लाना चाहिए कि हम लोग इन पुरातित्व स्थलों पर जा कर इन स्मारकों से नई प्रेरणा ले सकें और वहां से हम शान्ति प्राप्त करें और इन स्थलों को गन्दगी और इन गड़बड़ करने वाले लोगों से आप बचावें।

बस यही मुझे कहना था।

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE (Betul) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I did not have the slightest intention of participating in this debate but as I read the proposed Section 20 (A) to further amend the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act of 1958 I felt very highly provoked for two reasons. First, the constitutional validity of the same. No less a person than Shri Madhu Limaya, who is one of the constitutional pundits of this House, supported this Bill in extremely low key. He again and again asserted that I am supporting the Bill.

श्री मधु लिमये : जरूरत पड़ने पर संवैधानिक संशोधन भी किया जा सकता है।

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE : I expected him to come out very frankly and say that the provision, as it is, is utterly unconstitutional. In respect of entry 67, which is in the Seventh Schedule enumerating the Union list of subjects, only Parliament has authority to legislate. Section 67 reads :

> "Ancient and historical monuments and records, and archaeological sites and remairs, (declared by or under law made by Parliament) to be of national importance."

So, any ancient and historical monument of national importance so declared by or under law made by Parliament is something over which Parliament has authority. In the Concurrent List item 40 it reads :

> "Archaeological sites and remains other than those (declared by or under law made by Parliament) to be of national importance."

In respect of such monuments can you without amending the Constitution first vest authority in the State legislatures to make law? Therefore, instead of putting the cart before the horse first Constitution should have been amended. In fact, we are considering a Bill which is clearly unconstitutional as it is. This is my first point.

I entirely agree with the very serious concern which has been voiced by all the sections of the House including Shri Limaye and my colleagues in this party that several archaeological monuments are in a state of terrible neglect and we need to look after them far more cerefully, tenderly and with much greater zeal, effort and enthusiasm. About that I should mention later. But coming purely to the basic postulate of the proposed amendment I am simply alarmed to read the proposed change. Whether or not State legislatures ever add to the historicity of these monuments of national importance, if ever this Bill is passed we would be establishing a new landmark in encouraging fissiparous and secessionist tendencies.

In respect of a matter which is of national importance, how is this House less competent to make laws and less competent to take decisions as to how it should deal with it than the state Legislature. That is something which I cannot understand; whole idea is utterly unsound.

17.0 hrs.

Recently, I happened to visit Madras and I was driven about 30 miles away from Madras to the beautiful temple at Mahabalipuram. I saw sunset there. I have gone round the world several times and seen sunset at several places and so much is said about sunsets in different parts of the world, but rarely have I seen something tremendously maginficient and which can be a sight worthy of Gods. I do not know which Raja built it. What does it matter which Raja had built it? Suppose he had propagated a philosophy

[Shri N. K. P. Salve]

that the culture of the south was something different from that of the north etc. etc. or many things with which we are completely in disagreement and supposing it commends itself to the DMK Government to start building a monument of the raja. And then the ADMK comes, only the platform would be ready and the rest of it would not come up and that would become a monument which not only add historicity to that great temple at Mahabalipuram but it would be a monument to the political disputes which have come about. But if it came here, we, sitting here in Parliament can take a much more objective view. This is a national forum which can deliberate in the matter. I cannot think of a situation where the beautiful temple can be made ever to any State Legislature; even if it were in my own State of Madhya Pradesh, I would have said 'No'. Such a beautiful thing must be the exclusive prorogative of this House because this House alone can bring to bear a certain degree of national view point, a certain degree of national angle which is so necessary when we deal with these monuments. Therefore, I most vehemently protest against this Bill in its spirit as well as its letter.

SHRI MOHANRAJ KALINGARAYAR (Pollachi) : Does he mean to say that the does not want the State Government's participation in this ?

MR. N. K. P. SALVE : I welcome the State Government's participation but I certainly unwelcome completely a position which is going to interfere with the basic structure of a monument as such.

I was just coming to my next point. There are certain basic rules of archaeology. Fortunately for me and many other Members, I am a student of neither archaeology nor history and, therefore, I confine myself to commonsense. Going purely by commonsense, if a monument is of archaeological importance, I cannot understand where the necessity is of wanting to perpetuate the memory of a person who has constructed such a monument. For instance, we have the Taj Mahal in Agra. Has Taj Mahal immortalised Shah Jehan and Mumtaz Mahal or is it the other way about? The royal couple remembered for Taj Mahal symbolises sublime human love. I would like to know from the author of this Bill what he would think if we started building the statue of Mumtaz Mahal or Shah Jehan near Taj because they were the people who were sought to be immortalised through this beautiful tomb or mausoleum. That has failed

I consider that each archaeological monument stands for a certain philosophy. Therefore, I agree with Mr. Naik when he says that our monuments are not the legacy of only Tamil Nadu or South India or the whole of India but it is the legacy of the entire humanity. Treating it as such, why is it considered that any State Legislature should be given authority to deal with—something which we consider so sacrosanct as the legacy of the entire human race? So, I would say that let us trust the Government of India to take care of it *via* this House.

As regards the actual performance, however, I have something to say. I have great respect for the Education Minister who has been an eminent educationist and I know that he is one person who has a tremendous aesthetic sense. If he really went round the country he would find that these monument are in a hopeless state of disrepair. We need to look after these monuments with a much greater care. We need to spend much more money after them because they are invaluable priceless possessions of the entire humanity. We are the trustees and custodians of these priceless possessions. Here I might narrate a very small instance which would give you an idea of what tremendous priceless legacy we have, of which we ourselves have no idea.

I happened once to lead one of the delegations, to a tiny island in the Mediterranean, Malta. The Maltese people

took us for sight-seeing because I asked them to take us to some of their ancient monuments. They said: 'we will take you to a cave but entry to that cave will cost three dollars'. The foreign exchange of three dollars was a little too much. But I said 'does not matter'. For myself and my wife, I paid six dollars, in addition for something for the bus travel to that place. We were taken there. When I entered, I saw two huge stones covered by another stone at the top. Then I said, 'All right: let us go to the cave'. The guide said, 'You are already in the cave'. Then I enquired: 'Was this cave meant for rats or for human beings'? As for the amount of six dollars, I saw it go down the drain' This is not a mere tell-tale. This is what happened.

We do not know what priceless treasures we have in these monuments, beautiful temples that we have in the south and elsewhere, the magnificent Ajanta and Ellora. What we have is something which does not exist anywhere else in the world in any country. But they are in a terrible state of disrepair.

Then the smugglers are making merry. They take it abroad and sell it not for a hundred thousand rupees but for a hundred thousand dollars.

SHRI MOHANRAJ KALINGARAYAR : It is priceless.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE : It is priceless. But what are we doing about it?

I do hope the Mover of the Bill will withdraw the Bill and seek a assurance instead from the Minister that he will hereafter take much more tender care of these priceless treasures which are there in the country.

श्री एम० राम गोपाल रेड्डी (निजामाबाद) : यह जो बिल श्री उलगनम्बी ने पेश किया है इसका मैं समर्थन करता हूं । हमें इस विवाद में नहीं पड़ना चाहिये कि दक्षिण वाले अलग हैं, तमिलनाडु वाले अलग हैं । इस प्रकार की भावना इसके पीछे है अगर यह कहा जाता है तो मैं समझता हूं कि यह सही नहीं है । मेरा कहना इतना ही है कि बहुत से आर्कोलोजिकल मानुमैंट्स खराब हो रहे हैं, बरबाद होते जा रहे हैं और सैंट्रल गवर्नमैंट की तरफ से उनकी ठीक प्रकार से निगरानी नहीं हो रही है । इस तरह की बहुत से मानुमैंट्स की दशा को देख कर दुख हुए बगर नहीं रहा जा सकता है । मैंने कई लटर्ज इस तरह के मानुमैंट्स के बारे में लिखे हैं लेकिन कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया गया है । मैं समझता हूं कि अगर वे स्टेट के अधिकार में रहेंगे तो उनकी अच्छी तरह से देखभाल हो सकेगी । इस बिल का जो मंशा है वह यही है, ऐसा मुझे प्रतीत होता है । कितने ही मंदिर चूंकि उनकी देखभाल ठीक तरह से नहीं की गई है तबाह और बरबाद हो गए हैं । उनको देखने वाला कोई नहीं है । जो मंदिर प्रासपरस हैं वहां से पैसा जो चढ़ावे के रूप में आता है सरकार ले कर सैक्युलर एक्टिविटीज में उसको खर्च कर रही है । जिस मजहब को मानने वाले चढ़ावा चढ़ाते हैं और जिस भावना से चढ़ाते हैं उसको उसी काम में खर्च किया जाना चाहिये, उस पैसे को उस रिलिजन के वास्ते, उस रिलिजन के मंदिरों की देखभाल के लिए क्यों नहीं खर्च किया जाता है । तिरुपति से करोड़ों रुपये की आमदनी होती है । उसका बहुत बड़ा हिस्सा वकटेश्वरा यूनिवर्सिटी पर खर्च हो रहा है । मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि जिस मजहब के लोग उस पैसे को दे रहे हैं और जिस भावना से दे रहे हैं क्या उस पैसे को उसके अनरूप खर्च किया जा रहा है? स्कूल बनाना, कालेज बनाना या यूनिवर्सिटी बनाना यह तो गवर्नमेंट का काम है, यह उस इंस्टीट्यूशन का काम नहीं होना चाहिये । उस रिलिजन का पैसा दूसरे रिलिजन पर खर्च नहीं होना चाहिये । जो उस रिलिजन के मानुमैंट्स हैं उनकी देख भाल पर, उनके रख रखाव पर, उनकी ठीक व्यवस्था पर आपको खर्च करना चाहिये । जब मैं असेम्बली में था तब मैंने इसके बारे में सवाल भी किया था । वक्फ बोर्ड का पैसा हो तो उसको अपने तौर से खर्च करने की इजाजत होनी चाहिये । क्यों सेंट्रल गवर्नमैंट सब पैसे को अपने कब्जे में करके रखती है ? रिलिजन इंस्टीट्यूशन को भी अगर गवर्नमैंट का एक डिपार्टमेंट बना कर आप रखना चाहते हैं तो यह आपकी बड़ी भारी भूल है ।

[श्री एम राम गोपाल रैडी]

आज आप देखें किस किस तरह के लोगों को एप्वाइंट कर दिया जाता है । ऐसे लोगों को कर दिया जाता है जिनकी कोई सिफारिश होती है और जिन को आर्कियोलोजी से कोई दिलचस्पी नहीं होती है । व आकर ऊपर बठ जाते हैं। मैं समझता हूं कि जो भी लोग आप इस काम के लिए रखें ऐसे रखें जिनको मंदिरों की बनावट, उसकी हिस्ट्री आदि की जानकारी हो, अच्छा ज्ञान हो। बहुत सी जगह देखा गया है कि आई ० ए० एस० के अफसरों को एप्वाइंट करके आप इस काम के लिए भज रहे हैं । वह बेचारा रिलिजन के बारे में क्या जाने ? क्या सरकार ने कभी किसी रिलिजस-माइंडिड आदमी को, जो मजहब को अच्छी तरह जानता, है, किसी जगह नौकर रखा है? वह ऐसे लोगों को नहीं रखती है ।

आनरेबल मेम्बर का बिल बहुत सही है, लेकिन इस बारे में नार्थ और साउथ का सवाल उठाने की कोई जरूरत नहीं है । डी० एम० के० के एक मेम्बर ने पहली बार ईश्वर-भक्ति से प्रेरित होकर यह बिल पेश किया है, इस लिए मैं चाहता हूं कि मंत्री महोदय या तो इस को कुबूल कर लें, या इस किस्म का और कोई बिल लायें ।

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री (पटना) : सभापति महोदय, इस विधेयक का समर्थन करते हुए मैं एक दो बातें कहना चाहता हूं ।

शिक्षा, समाज कल्याण तथा संस्कृति मंत्री (प्रो० एस० नुरुल हसन) : समर्थन ?

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : इस बिल की जो भावना बताई गई है, उस का मैं समथन करता हूं ।

प्रो० एस० नुरुल हसन : हीरेन बाबू इसका विरोध कर चुके हैं।

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : मैं इस की भावना का समर्थन कर रहा हूं ।

श्री मधु लिमये : प्राईवेट मेम्बरों के बिलों के संबंध में कोई पार्टी-लाइन नहीं होती है ।

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : हमारे देश के एक कोने से दूसर कोने तक, हिमालय से लेकर कन्या कुमारी तक, पुराने मानुमेंट्स भरे पड़, हैं, जिनकी रक्षा करना हमारा कर्त्तव्य है । लकिन जिस रूप में और जिस नाम से वे मानुमट रहें हैं, उसी रूप में और उसी नाम से उनको कायम रखा जाये यह नही होना चाहिए कि उन को नई शकल या नया नाम दे दिया जाये । बिहार में राजगीर नालंदा, बोधगया, वशाली, मिथिला, कुम्हरार आदि स्थानों पर बहुत प्राचीन मानुमेंट हैं । इसी तरह मनेर में एक मुस्लिम मानुमेंट बहुत प्राचीन है । इस लिए एक जमाने में उसको मनर शरीफ़ कहा जाता था । इसके अतिरिक्त महसराम में शेरशाह का मकबरा और बाबू कुंअर सिह के जन्मस्थान है और पटना सिटी में गुरु गोविन्दसिह का मन्दिर है। यू० पी० में सारनाथ और कुशीनगर हैं । ऐसे बहुत से नाम गिनाय जा सकते हैं । ये सब हमारी एतिहासिक थाती है, जिनकी रक्षा करना हम सब का कर्त्तव्य है । इन मानुमट्स से हमें अपने पुराने इतिहास का परिचय मिलता है, उस का अध्ययन करने में सहायता मिलती है। इस लिए उन की हिफ़ाजत करने की तरफ सरकार का ध्यान जाना चाहिए, ताकि गलत लोग उनको लेकर धार्मिक भावनायें न उभार सकें और हमारे मुल्क की सैकुलरिज्म की नीति के खिलाफ़ काम न कर सकें । मैं इसी अर्थ में इस बिल के बारे में बोल रहा हूं अगर इस का अर्थ कुछ और हो, तो वह इस बिल को पेश करने वाले माननीय सदस्य समझ, या उसका समर्थन करने वाले समझें।

दुर्भाग्य से इस काम को करने के लिए जो पुरातत्व विभाग, है, उस ने अपना उत्तरदायित्व ठीक तरह से नहीं निभाया है । मैं एक ही उदाहरण दूंगा । यह कई साल पहल की बात है । उस समय इस विभाग के जो मंत्री थे, मैंने उनको एक पत्र भी लिखा था । मनेर शरीफ़ के प्राचीन मानुमेंट में एक सोने का गम्बद था, जिस में कई पौंड सोना लगा हुआ था। एक रात को उस को चुरा लिया गया । इस बार में पूरे बिहार में, और बिहार एसेम्बली में भी, हंगामा हुआ । मैंने मंत्री महोदय को चिट्ठी लिखी और

इस प्रश्न को लोक सभा में भी उठाया । लेकिन उसका मुनासिब जवाब आज तक नहीं मिला है और सोना तो चला ही गया उसका कहीं पता नहीं चला है । मालूम नहीं, उस को चोर ले गये, या वहां काम करने वाले ले गये । लेकिन उसका जो उपयोग हो सकता था, इस चोरी की वजह से वह नहीं हो सका । मैंने यह नमूना पेश किया है कि हमारे मानमेंट्स की हिफ़ाजत किस तरह से की जाती है । मैं इस कान्ट्रोवर्सी में नहीं पड़ना चाहता हूं कि यह काम किसी एम्पलाई ने किया, या किसी ने करवाया । लेकिन तथ्य यह है कि न यहां की सरकार और न वहां की सरकार इस चोरी का पता लगा सकी है ।

इस बात को लेकर वहां के लोगों के दिल में बड़ा असंतोष है । खास तौर से यह माइनारिटी कम्युनिटी का मामला है । उन में यह भावना बहुत जल्दी उभारी जाती है कि सरकार ने उनकी तरफ़ ध्यान नहीं दिया, जैसे बहुत से मामलों में सरकार उन की तरफ ध्यान नहीं देती है । वह स्थान मेरे इलाके में है और मैं वहां जाता रहता हूं ।

राजगीर के बारे में मुझे कुछ नहीं कहना है । नालंदा बहुत प्राचीन लर्निन्ग का केन्द्र रहा है । मंत्री महोदय जा कर देखें कि उस की हालत क्या है । मैंने अन्य ऐतिहासिक स्थलों और मानुमेंट्स की भी चर्चा की है, जिनकी तरफ़ मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान जाना चाहिए । यू० पी० के जिन मानुमेंट्स का मैंने जिक्र किया है, मंत्री महोदय को उनकी तरफ भी ध्यान देना चाहिए । पूरे हिन्दुस्तान में जितने भी पुराने मानमेंट्स हैं केवल मन्दिर और मस्जिद नहीं, मंत्री महोदय को उन सब की देख भाल और रक्षा की व्यवस्था करनी चाहिए । सैकुलरिज्म की अपनी नीति को बरकरार रखते हुए हमें इन तमाम मानमेंट्स की हिफ़ाजत करनी चाहिए, ताकि हम अपने इतिहास का ठीक तरह से अध्ययन कर सकें और हम लोगों को इस बारे में शिक्षित कर सकें कि हमारा भूतकाल कैसा रहा है, हमारा मुल्क पहले कहां था, आज कहां जा रहा है और कहां जाना चाहिए । मेरी मंशा यही है मेरा खयाल है कि मंत्री महोदय ने मेरी बात समझ ली होगी । उस का अर्थ वह जो चाहे समझ ले ।

SHRI ARJUN SETHI (Bhadrak) : I am not in favour of this Bill, but I must appreciate the interest which the hon. Member has expressed through this Bill to preserve and maintain the ancient monuments of our Country. On this occasion I should like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister and his able Deputy to the fact that the State of Orissa is full of ancient temples and rare monuments, but unfortunately those priceless monuments and temples are in ruins due to poor maintenance. I must bring to his notice that in Konarak they have appointed some officers who do not know what a monument is. They are careless and they do not bother about this. They do not know how to preserve these monuments or what to do. They do not know what their duty is. I am told that a number of representations have been made against the Officer in charge of that museum, but, no action has been taken. I am not particularly against him or her. But, my plea is, when a person is put in-charge of an ancient monument or a temple, he should take care of that monument, for which he has been appointed or he has been paid for.

Some two to three months back, myself and my hon. friend Shri Banamali Patnaik visited the Konarak temple. When we went to the museum, we found that there was nobody except one chowkidar, who was loitering here and there. When we asked for some information in regard to the museum etc., he said, the chowkidar on duty, said 'we do not know when the Curator or the Officer will come'. This is the way in which, the famous museum, one of the most rare monuments in the country, is being looked after. This is the case not only with Konarak, but, in regard to other monuments like lingaraj temple at Bhubaneswar, Jagannath temple at Puri, etc. Similarly, there are various temples in Orissa. That is why, it is called the 'Land

[Shri Arjun Sethi]

of Temples', and due to inadequate maintenance and lack of proper protection, these rare temples in Orissa are in ruins and regularly, pilferages and thefts are taking place and many rare idols are being smuggled out of this country. So, I would request the hon. Minister to see to it that these priceless temples and priceless monuments, especially, in that part of the country, namely, Orissa are looked after. That is why, we have requested the Government at the Centre to create an Archaeological Circle, so that the Superintendent or the man in-charge of that Circle will be able to devote his full time in regard to the preservation of these monuments, in Orissa.

I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to another matter, though it may be a petty one. Sometime ago, some guides were appointed in order to help the people who visit the temple at Konarak. But, they have now been retrenched, I do not know for what reasons. Now, nobody is there to guide the tourists, who visit this temple.

Lastly, I would request the Government and our Professor who is a lover of arts, architecture and monuments that he should create an Archaeological Circle in Orissa so as to preserve these temples in Orissa.

डा० गोविन्द दास रिछारिया (झांसी) : सभापति जी, मैं आपका आभारी हूं कि आप ने मुझे इस विषय पर अपने विचार प्रकट करने के लिए समय दिया । मैं इस बिल का समर्थन न करते हुए परन्तु इस की जो भावना है उस के अन्तर्गत माननीय मंत्री जी का ध्यान उत्तर प्रदेश के बन्देलखंड डिवीजन की तरफ आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं । जैसा कि आपको पता है उत्तर प्रदेश का यह एक एतिहासिक क्षेत्र है जिसकी एक सांस्कृतिक थाती है । यहां पर 1857 में महारानी लक्ष्मीबाई के नेतृत्व में अंग्रेजों के विरुद्ध युद्ध लड़ा गया था । आज भी वहां रानी झांसी का महल, उनका किला और उनका मंदिर दर्शनीय स्थान है । लकिन ये सब वीरान अवस्था में पड़े हैं । मंत्री जी से कई बार निवदन किया गया । उनके यहां से उत्तर भी आया कि उस पर कारंवाई की जा रही है लेकिन साल भर से अभी तक कोई कारंवाई नहीं हुई । आप शीघ्र ही उसकी मरम्मत की व्यवस्था करें । महारानी झांसी का मंदिर उनका महल और किला देखने के लिए दूर दूर से लोग जाते हैं । उनको आपने अपने कब्जे में तो ले लिया लेकिन उनकी स्थिति अभी कोई अच्छी नहीं है । ये दर्शनीय चीजे है ।

इसी तरह से जन मन्दिर देवगढ़, सीरोन कला और पवादी में है । ये ऐसे मंदिर है जहां पत्थर की कटी हुई मूर्तियां बहुत बड़ी तादाद में पड़ी है जिन को देख कर विदेशी यात्री भी उनकी तारीफ करते है लकिन उनकी रक्षा का कोई प्रबन्ध नही है । मूर्तियां चोरी चली जाती है, इस देश में नहीं बल्कि विदेश में । वहां आपकी संस्कृति जाकर बिकती है । आपका विभाग इस ओर ध्यान दे । इनकी रक्षा करने की आवश्यकता है ।

इसी तरह से झांसी में ओरछा वरुआ सागर और भी चार छः ऐसे स्थान है जिनके ऊपर आपको विशेष ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है । वे आपकी सम्पत्ति है, कला है, उन्हें सुरक्षित रखना आपका कर्तव्य है । उससे अपनी संस्कृति कायम रहेगी और बाहर के यात्री जो खजुराहो देखने जाते हैं वे भी इन तमाम चीजों को देखेंगे । इसलिए आप इन पर विशेष ध्यान दें । इसी तरह से महारानी लक्ष्मीबाई के पति गंगा धर राव का मंदिर है । उसको लने की घोषणा तो आपने कर दी है लकिन अभी तक उसकी मरम्मत का काम प्रारम्भ नहीं हुआ । उसकी भी आप कराएं और उसकी सुरक्षा की व्यवस्था करें ।

सभापति महोदय : इस विधेयक का समय पांच बज कर 33 मिनट तक है । उसके बाद श्री लिमये का विधेयक आ जायेगा । अगर सदन की राय हो तो इस विधेयक को 5-50 तक चलाया जाए और उसके बाद लिमये जी का विधेयक आए । फिर छः बजे से दूसरा काम चलेगा और लिमये जी का विधेयक अगली तारीख के लिए चला जाएगा ।

मैं समझता हूं कि सदन की राय है कि यह विधेयक 5-50 तक चले । **श्रीमती सहोदराबाई राय** (सागर) : यह जो बिल है यह वैसे तो समर्थन योग्य है लेकिन मैं प्रार्थना करती हूं कि वह इसको वापिस ले लें और मंत्री महोदय सोच समझकर इसके लिए कोई कानून लाएंगे या वहां चल फिर कर देखेंगे कि हमारे मन्दिरों की कैसी अवस्था है । कई मन्दिर वीरान पड़े हुए हैं, मस्जिदें पड़ी हैं, जो आधी गिरी हैं, आधी खड़ी हैं । कहीं शिवजी की मूर्ति पड़ी है, कहीं पार्वती जी की है । इन सबकी

मरम्मत की ओर वह कदम उठाएं । उनको ठीक से बनवा देवें और वहां पुजारी बिठा देवें जिसमें उनका भजन पूजन हो सके । मैं अभी अजन्ता गई थी, अलोरा गई थी, नालन्दा गई थी । वहां पुरानी संस्कृति की बड़ी अच्छी-अच्छी गुफाएं पड़ी हुई हैं लेकिन कुछ गिरती जा रही हैं, एक आध बनी हुई है । उनको अपने कब्जे में लेकर उनकी दुरुस्ती कराई जाए, उनको पानी से बचाया जाए और फिर से उन मन्दिरों में पुजारी रखे जाएं । दक्षिण में बड़े-बड़े मन्दिर वीरान पड़े हैं, मूर्तियां चोरी चली जाती हैं । उनको कोई देखने वाला नहीं है । मैं तिरुपति भी गई थी वहां तीन लाख रुपये सालाना की आमदनी है । उस तीन लाख रुपये का महन्त क्या करते होंगे ? वहां मैंने यह भी सुना कि पहले जो महन्त थे उन्होंने कोई देवदासी रख ली थी, उसके बाद उनको निकाला गया और दूसरे को रखा गया । इस पैसे का उपयोग आप दूसरे धार्मिक स्थानों में लगा सकते हैं । बड़े-बड़े साधू मन्दिरों में जाकर पड़े रहते हैं, गांजा उड़ाते हैं, पैसा बरबाद करते हैं । इनका इन्तजाम होना चाहिए, सरकार की ओर से समय-समय पर निरीक्षण होना चाहिये, देखभाल होनी चाहिये ।

आज तो वह वक्त आ गया है—हमारे यहां मन्दिर और धर्मशालाएं वीरान पड़ी रहती हैं । जानकीरमण के मन्दिर हैं, शंकर और हनुमान के मन्दिर हैं, दूसरे मन्दिर हैं, सब ऐसे ही पड़े रहते हैं, कोई पूजा करने नहीं जाता । सिनेमा हो तो सब पहुंच जाते हैं, लेकिन मन्दिरों में लोग नहीं जाते ।

हमारे बुन्देलखण्ड के बारे में रिछारिया जी ने कहा—हमारे यहां खजुराहो के मन्दिर हैं, विदेशी लोग वहां हवाई जहाज से जाते हैं । उनको अच्छा बनाना चाहिये, उनकी उन्नति होनी चाहिये । हमारे यहां खंगारु और गढ़ कुण्डार के किले हैं, अनेकों देवी-देवताओं के मन्दिर हैं जो बेकार पड़े हैं । मन्दिर कोई भी हो, हिन्दू का हो, मुसलमान का हो, ईसाई का हो सबकी समान रूप से देखभाल होनी चाहिये

श्री मूल चन्द डागा : इनके पास बजट कितना है, यह तो पूछो ?

श्रीमती सहोदराबाई राय : मैं मिनिस्टर साहब से ही कह रही हूं— उनको इनकी हिफाजत करनी चाहिये इनको बनाना चाहिये । इस तरह से कन्याकुमारी तक जाइये, दक्षिण में अनेकों बड़े-बड़े मन्दिर हैं जो अधूरे पड़े हैं, उन्हें देवताओं ने बनाया है, मनुष्यों ने नहीं बनाया है, जैसे सेतुबन्ध रामेश्वर का मन्दिर है, बद्रीनाथ का मन्दिर है, इनमें बहुत पब्लिक जाती है, उनमें पैसा लगाइये । आप यहां के मालिक हैं, अगर कुछ कर जायेंगे तो आपका नाम सोने के अक्षरों में लिखा जायगा । वक्त का कोई भरोसा नहीं है, कब चला जाये, आप कोई ऐसा काम करें जिससे आपका नामोनिशान कायम रहे ।

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN) : Sir, I would like to compliment the hon. Member for having brought a Bill, which has given to the Members of the House an opportunity to express themselves on the broader question of the work of the Archaeological Survey of India. The hon. Member has rendered my task very easy because in his very long speech, which he read out, there was very little on the Bill itself, and more on issues which were extraneous to the Bill itself. I am grateful to many hon. Members for having commented on two of the principles which are involved in this Bill. I would not like to take the time of the House by commenting a great deal on those two principles, because they have already been commented upon.

The first question is whether the appeal of a monument, which has been declared as a monument of national importance, lie only to the people of the State in which it is situated or whether the entire nation has to look upon it as its proud heritage. This point has been discussed by several of my hon. friends. All that I would say on behalf of the Government is that we fully subscribe to this view that these monuments are not monuments of which only the people of the State need be proud, the entire people of the country are proud of these and many of the monuments are looked upon as the heritage of the entire mankind. Therefore, this Bill brings in a concept which goes against this fundamental point. I would, therefore, urge on my

[Prof. S. Nurul Hassan.]

hon. friend to reconsider the stand that he has taken.

The second point which has been raised is, what is the best way of honouring those personalities which are connected with great monuments. This point has also been very ably discussed by many hon. members, and I find myself in entire agreement with these members that, to preserve the historicity of a monument is a greater tribute to those who constructed the monument than by attempting to put in something which is dateable to the present and not dateable to the time to which a monument belongs. Therefore, it is a broader and wider issue. It should be looked upon as a broader issue. It is a matter on which not only lay people, as was said by some hon. friends, have taken an absolutely correct stand but also historians and archaeologists of world repute have taken a very definite and a clear-cut stand. This is not a matter which should be treated as an issue of party. If my hon. friend wanted to pay a tribute to the leader of his party, at least I for one would like to say that I have great regard and respect for him. But I am afraid the issues are a little different. Can anything which is constructed today, which is conceived of, say in 1972 or 1973 or 1974, whatever may be the year, represent the authentic spirit of the period to which a monument belongs ? Therefore, are we really showing our respect to those great personalities by interfering with something which they themselves have created ? It is a part of our culture ; those who have built a great temple have done it out of a sense of devotion; they have not done it in order to perpetuate their own memory. Otherwise, in the case of kings they could have easily had statues of themselves made and installed there. If they did something out of their faith in it, out of regard, it does not behave of us to interfere with their conception of the monument. If we want to honour some one, we can easily do so without interfering with that monument. The world is very wide, our country is very wide. If a State Government wishes to honour the memory of a great Indian, it can always build monuments at other places, not necessarily within a monument whose historicity or whose aesthetic value is to be preserved.

A few points have been made by my hon. friend, Shri Limaye, Although they are not directly connected with the Bill, I would briefly refer to those. He has suggested that I should ask for an annual report on each of the monuments. I have already issued those instructions. He has also said that there are many smaller monuments which should be looked after by the State and the Constitution may be amended. I hope he has already seen entry 40 of the Concurrent List. The State Governments can do this, and I hope that they will be taking up the preservation and protection of those monuments. He has referred to Ahilole temple and Chalukyan temples in Bijapur District. These are already receiving our attention. We have acquired large areas around these ancient temples, and the work of repairs has already been undertaken.

Then, he has raised a point with which I find myself in full agreement that in matters like where a statue is to be permitted or not permitted should be decided by consulting expert opinion. The House will recall that there is a Central Advisory Board of Archaeology which is a body on which each State Government is represented. Certain number of universities are represented. This honourable House is represented ; the other House is represented. A few distinguished archaeologists in their individual rights are represented.

There are two temples to which references were made. One is the Brahadiswara temple and the other is the temple in the Vellore Fort. The attitude adopted by the Archaeological Survey of India and the Central Government was based on the advice of the Central Advisory Board of Archaeology. In respect of the Brahadiswara temple, I went in February 1972 to Madras and there I had a discussion with my distinguished friend the Education Minister of Tamilnadu. I suggested to him that instead of this becoming a matter of

controversy between the State Government and the Central Government, why should we not ask a committee consisting of the superintending archaeologist of the Archaeological Survey in Madras, the Director of Archaeology of Tamil Nadu, and a distinguished professor of Archaeology and History, one who would be familiar with the history, etc. who could go into it and give a report as to where the statue should be placed. Actually the issue was not that the statue should not be placed. But the issue was where the statue was to be placed. But somehow this matter developed into a political controversy and I hope that my friend will try to use his good offices to see that in these matters political controversies are avoided and we respect the opinion given by experts.

My hon. friend Shri Ulaganambi has referred to Epigraphy. I think he is doing an injustice to the work that has been done with great distinction by the Epigraphical Branch and the Government Epigraphist, under him has two distinct branches, one branch dealing with South Indian inscriptions. For a long time this work has been going on and some of the work is really outstanding which has been done by the office of the Government Epigraphist.

He referred to the recommendations of the Wheeler Committee. I myself happen to be a member of that Committee. I know the importance of some of the recommendations. We are now trying to find funds so that many of those recommendations can be implemented. I am trying to deal with main points; I am sorry I am not able to deal with all individual points, within the time at my disposal. One point made was that these monuments should be looked after much better. I am in full agreement with the views which have been expressed and I might confess that I am not satisfied with the way we have been looking after the monuments or even offering protection to them. The reasons are well-known. The most important reason is inadequacy of funds. But this honourable House will recall that about two years ago about 2,000 monument attendants were appointed so that the security work could improve. During the last year the grants available to the Archaeological Survey of India have been increased considerably with the result that the work of special repairs has now been started on a fairly large scale. We hope that in the present year which has just commenced this work would improve even more, because, if the House pleases, the grants available to archaeological survey for doing this work are going to be enhanced even more.

Sir, we are conscious of the importance of preserving our national heritage and, it is for these reasons, that the amount has increased by several lakhs of rupees. I think that the plan and non-plan expenditure taken together, for erecting and for repairing, the grants would be Rs. 120 crores. This is a sizeable improvement on what the situation was about four or five years ago.

In view of this assurance that I am offering to the hon. House that Government is conscious of the fact that the work of preservation and of looking after the monument has to be taken up more seriously and the fact that we have already provided more funds and we are attempting to streamline the organisation, we hope that the care of the monuments would improve radically. So, I appeal to my hon. friend, Shri Ulaganambi to withdraw the Bill.

SHRI R. P. ULAGANAMBI : Sir, with due respect, I would offer one or two explanations within three or four minutes.

I am thankful to the Members who have participated in this debate as also to our hon. Minister for having taken pains to explain and answer the questions that have been raised by me and other Members.

The intention of my Bill is not any parochial view-points or it involves any political issue. If you go through my Bill with all seriousness you can easily understand the spirit behind this Bill. Our Minister had asked whether this is confined to my

[Shri R. P. Ulaganambi.]

State alone or the Bill is brought forward as a national issue for the country as a whole, I would like to say one thing. The Archaeological Department does not take any care to maintain and preserve the national monuments. Also, the purpose of my bringing forward this Bill is this. This is just to instal, erect, build or construct a suitable momorial in, or near, or in the vicinity of, a protected monument or a protected area to perpetuate the memory of the person, who was either the founder, or the builder or the originator of the idea for the installation, erection, building or construction of such a monument. I am not speaking as an individual belonging to D.M.K. Party. Irrespective of the fact whether one belongs to D.M.K. or A.D.M.K. or any other party, the purpose of this Bill is only for amending Section 20A to the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958. My amendment to 20A(2) is as follows :—

"(2) The Memorial so installed, erected, constructed or built shall be such as not to have the effect of destroying, removing, injuring, defacing, imperilling or misusing the protected monument."

That is the guarantee that is given in this Bill. It is not that any individual party or Member with vast majority of votes comes forward with this Bill for installing a statue. This reflects the aspiration of the people of the locality who want to instal or erect the statue. That should be considered. That is the spirit behind this Bill. It is not my intention to bring in any party issue or any individual's issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Those things are clearly mentioned in the Bill. Tell us whether you are willing to withdraw this Bill or not.

SHRI R. P. ULAGANAMBI : It is not unconstitutional as one hon. Member said. I only want an amendment to Section 20. If the Minister accepts this, then only he can bring forward an amendment to the Constitution. It is not unconstitutional. It is within the purview of the Constitution.

Prof. Mukerjee raised this issue—he is not here—and he also appreciated the maintenance of the Madurai temple. Also he appreciated the panoramic view of the Cape Comerin—Kanyakumari. Madurai temple is looked after by the State Government. That is why it is properly looked after a great struggle we got the limited permission to garden the open space around Vellore Fort. If any State Government comes forward and pass a resolution by majority to take over any temple or erect any statue then only the Bill seeks for your consideration.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do you want to withdraw the Bill or not ?

SHRI R. P. ULAGANAMBI : I seek leave of the House to withdraw the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That leave be granted to Shri R. P. Ulaganambi to withdraw the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (Amendment) Bill, 1972."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI R. P. ULAGANAMBI : I withdraw the Bill.

MOTHER'S LINEAGE BILL

17.50 hrs.

श्री मधु लिमये (बांका) I beg to move :

"That the Bill to provide for the right to trace one's lineage from the side of one's mother be taken into consideration."

सभापति महोदय, आज सारा विश्व सप्त क्रान्तियों की चपेट में है । यह सात क्रान्तियां कम अधिक मात्रा में दुनिया के विभिन्न देशों में चल रही हैं, और हमारा ऐसा देश जिसने इनमें से कुछ क्रान्तियों में अगुवाई की थी इस देश को तो इनके सभी पहलुओं पर बड़ी गम्भीरता से गौर करना चाहिये । इन सप्त क्रान्तियों में एक क्रान्ति है आर्थिक समानता की, गरीबी और अमीरी के बीच में जो खाई है उसको मिटाने वाली ।

और दूसरी क्रान्ति है सामाजिक समानता की, जन्म पर आधारित जाति की कल्पना को समाप्त करने वाली। तीसरी क्रान्ति है काले-गोरे की असमानता को मिटाने वाली वंशवार-विरोधी क्रान्ति। चौथी क्रान्ति है उपनिवेशवाद-विरोधी राष्ट्रीय स्वतन्त्रता की क्रान्ति। दुनिया के अधिकतर हिस्सों में तो यह क्रान्ति सम्पन्न हुई है, लेकिन अफ्रीका में, खास करके पुर्तगाली साम्राज्य के नीचे आज अफ्रीका के कई देश हैं जिनको राष्ट्रीय स्वतन्त्रता अभी तक प्राप्त नहीं हुई है। यह क्रान्ति भी आज अधूरी है। पांचवीं क्रान्ति है पूंजीवाद और असमानता-विरोधी क्रान्ति। छठी क्रान्ति है एक तिहाई विकसित और औद्योगिक राष्ट्रों की दुनिया, एक तिहाई दुनिया, और दूसरी ओर अविकसित राष्ट्रों की दो तिहाई दुनिया इनके बीच में जो मतभेद है। विगत 27 सालों में कम होने के बजाय बढ़ता चला जा रहा है, तो उसको खत्म करना भी आवश्यक है। और सातवीं क्रान्ति है नर-नारी समानता की क्रान्ति। और इस विधेयक का सम्बन्ध इस सातवीं क्रान्ति से है। यह सातवीं क्रान्ति ही इसका आधार है।

सभापति महोदय, मेरा जो विधेयक है उसका मकसद तो सीमित है। मगर इसके द्वारा मैं उन सारे सवालों को उठाना चाहता हूं जिनका सम्बन्ध उदारता और समानता से है। हमारे संविधान में सभी लोगों को कानून के सामने समानता प्रदान की गई है। लेकिन हम लोग जानते हैं कि कानून की इस मान्यता को आज कार्यान्वित नहीं किया जा रहा है। कानून ने कहा है कि सभी लोगों को कानून का समान संरक्षण मिले। लेकिन वास्तविकता यह है कि इस तरह का समान संरक्षण आज नहीं मिल रहा है। समाज में कुछ लड़कों को, कुछ बच्चों को अनौरस और अवैध माना जाता है, उनके कदम-कदम पर अपमानित किया जाता है। नतीजा यह होता है कि यह मासूम बच्चे, यह फूल बचपन में ही मुर्झा जाते हैं। तो क्या इस सदन का यह कर्त्तव्य नहीं है कि जिन बच्चों का कोई अपराध नहीं है उनके साथ इस तरह का व्यवहार कम से कम कानून और संविधान के आधार पर न किया जाय, और इस तरह का एक आन्दोलन हम लोग चलायें जिससे समाज की जो कल्पना, समाज के जो अनुदार विचार हैं, परम्परागत विचार हैं उनमें कोई परिवर्तन आये ?

सभापति महोदय, आज का समाज, इसके बारे में दो रायें नहीं हैं कि, सम्पत्ति-अभिमुख और पुरुष-प्रधान है और बहुत सारे जो आधार हैं कानून के और मान्यताओं के, इसके पीछे यही दकियानूसी दृष्टिकोण है। और नतीजा यह होता है कि सम्पत्ति-अभिमुख और पुरुष प्रधान समाज अविवाहित माताओं को पतिता का दर्जा देता है और उनकी सन्तति के साथ दुर्व्यवहार करता है। इसलिये इस विधेयक के द्वारा में इस बात का प्रारम्भ करना चाहता हूं। इससे सारी समस्यायें तो समाप्त नहीं होतीं, लेकिन इस विधेयक के द्वारा एक नई उदारवादी परम्परा कायम करने की मैं कोशिश कर रहा हूं।

सभापति महोदय, हमारे प्राचीन इतिहास की ओर देखा जाय तो हमेशा ऐसी माताओं की तरफ और बच्चों की तरफ देखने का दृष्टिकोण हमेशा अनुदार नहीं रहा है।

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member may please continue his speech next time.

Now we take up Half-an-Hour Discussion.

18.00 hrs.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

SUPPLY OF MACHINERY TO HEAVY ENGINEERING CORPORATION, RANCHI

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI (Jamshedpur) : I rise to raise a discussion on points arising out of the reply given to my unstarred question No. 2231 on 7th March, 1974 in connection with the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi.

The reply to my question was given by the Deputy Minister of Heavy Industry; regarding the non-supply of complete machinery, plant and machine-tools for the heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi.

[Sardar Swaran Singh Sokhi]

for its rated capacity and full production, I would submit that it has recently been detected by the management, as I was informed by the managing director, Mr. Kini, during my last visit to Ranchi on the 8th February, 1974. He showed me the project report which he called his Bible.

My question was regarding the entire HEC but the reply given was only confined to the HMBP which was only a department of the HEC. The HEC, Ranchi, since its inception, during the last two decades has gone into the hands of about half a dozen managing directors and chairmen, and once our present Minister of Steel and Mines, Shri K. D. Malaviya was also the chairman of the HEC. As a result of the frequent changes in the top officials of the management, no one worked wholeheartedly there. I think more than 50 per cent of the capital has been eaten away by now. The HEC never made any profit and it is very clear from its records. The Heavy Industries Minister Shri T. A. Pai had himself admitted and accepted while addressing the Indian Engineering Association at New Delhi on 27th March, 1974 that HEC was a sick giant which was expected to halve its loss this year.

I want to know for such losses, who is to blame. The words 'heavy losses' in the Heavy Engineering Corporation sound very well, because both are heavy—the losses and the Corporation.

Sometime back, the blame was put on labour unrest, political tensions and disturbances and recently, on power shortage. But no one so far could find it out, till it was detected recently that there are some major reasons for loss in production.

I admire the brain of the officers of the Ministry of Heavy Industry who very intelligently drafted the reply to my question. Just in one paragraph, they tried to give a reply to all the three parts, (a), (b) and (c) of my question, a reply which is, I must say, very vague. Generally, the Ministry officials are in the habit of giving such vague replies and the Ministers defend them here. The officers take undue avdantage of the situation. This is not the case only of this Ministry but almost all Ministries are not free from this disease. I hope at least Shri Pai will check this disease in his Ministry to save his old reputation.

It is an admitted fact the HEC never reached its target or worked to its full production capacity. It is really surprising to read about the shortage of machinery supplied. In the reply, it has been stated and admitted in a roundabout way. I quote :

> "On account of the modfication in the product-mix of the plant and the assessment that the installed machining capacity is likely to prove inadequate, the additional requirements of balancing facilities are being determined in consultation with the National Industrial Corporation and the Soviet experts".

What does this mean ? It has got to be clarified by the Minister. What does 'machining capacity is likely to prove inadequae' mean ? Again I come to the point—this sort of reply is not only vague but a serious atempt to misguide the Parliament.

Here are a few pertinent points to which I want categorical replies from the hon. Minister of Heavy Industry.

Why is modification in the product-mix of the plant needed now ? Why was the necessity felt to assess it at this late stage when the project report was lying with the HEC management so long and the Ministers were sleeping over it in the last two decades ? Is it a fact that the installed machining capacity and the machine tools at HEC proved inadequate ? What are the additional requirements of machine tools for the balancing capacity in detail ? How much foreign exchange would be required to provide the same ? Why were the Soviet Export company having experts, and the foreign collaborator companies were not approached earlier ?

Or, did they never mention these balance requirements ? In the project report and the scheme submitted for approval of the Government of India, before signing the agreement with the Soviet Export Company, which supplied the HEC plant and erected it ? Or, was it overlooked by our engineers, managing directors and chairman of the HEC and their predecessors and the Minister of Heavy Industry ? I would also like to know whether our National Industrial Development Corporation along with the Indian Design Bureau are capable of tackling the matter independently, when we are erecting many huge plants designed by them indigenously in the country. When actually did this inadequacy and requirement to reach full production by HEC come to their knowledge, which has been proved by the reply itself ?

To my great surprise, why has the Managing Director of HEC, Mr. Kini, who joined only last year in August, been replaced by the Ministry and a new Managing Director, Mr. S. K. Warrier, appointed only on the 1st or second April, 1974—it appears from the news report, a cutting of which I have got here, with me—when this half-an-hour discussion was pending before this House ? It creates some doubt in my mind, when he has been removed so urgently and a new man has come. He was there only for the last six or seven months.

Then, the next question is whether the design was faulty, as well as the planning and scheme as regards the project report. I want to know whether the Government of India is prepared to take steps to recover the heavy losses to the tune of crores of rupees from the designers and the foreign collaborator-companies who prepared the project report, and when the plant was erected by the Soviet experts.

What is the reason of this unusual delay in the installation of the additional balance machinery required and the facilities ? What was the reason in sending the present General Manager of HEC to Russia sometime back, and what discussions did he have with the Soviet expert and what are the details of discussion he had with the designers and foreign collaborators, and what is the outcome of the discussion ?

I hope the hon. Minister, Mr. T. A. Pai, will give a detailed, categorical reply to the satisfaction of this august House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu—absent. Shri Ramavatar Shastri.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री (पटना) : सभापति जी, जिस सवाल पर हम यहां आधे घन्टे की चर्चा कर रहे हैं, इसके जवाब को पढ़ने से मुझे कम से कम यह स्पष्ट मालूम हुआ कि सोवियत यूनियन ने समझौते के मुताबिक तमाम मशीनों को सप्लाई कर दिया । फिर भी हमारे देश में सोवियत रूस विरोधी लाबी और खासतौर से जो निजी पूंजीपतियों के समर्थक हैं या उसकी व्यवस्था के ममर्थक हैं, वे जरूरत-ब-जरूरत इस तरह के सवाल उठाकर हमारे दो देशों की दोस्ती में दरार पैदा करने की कोशिश करते है और मुझे माफ करेंगे सरदार जी, मेरे ख्याल से इन्होंने भी यही काम करने की कोशिश की है ।

सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह सोढी : आप मुझ पर यह आरोप क्यों लगाते हैं, मैं मशीनरी को अच्छी तरह जानता हूं ।

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : मैं यह दावा नहीं करता हूं कि आप नहीं जानते । पहले भी एक बार इन्होंने आधे घन्टे की चर्चा उठाई थी और उसकी भी टोन यही थी । इसलिए में यह बात कह रहा हूं ।

श्री बी० वी० नायक (कनारा): आप क्या रूस के एम्बेसेडर हैं ?

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI : Let me express my views, and when you will get your chance, you can express your opinion.

श्री बी ०वी० नायक: आप क्या रूस के एम्बेसेडर हैं ।

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री: Please hear me.

मैं रूस का एम्बसेडर नहीं हूं । वह यहां आ भी नहीं सकते । लेकिन हम हिन्दुस्तान की जनता के एम्बेसेडर हैं और प्रगतिशील ताकतों के

[श्री रामावतार शास्त्री]

एम्बेसेडर हैं । हम टाटा और बिड़ला के एम्बेसेडर नहीं हैं ।

SHRI B. V. NAIK : You say a thing and get away, and silent people sit here. If we say it back again, you get annoyed about it. Sir, you should protect the Members of this House from such things.

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI : Nobody has said anything against you.

SHRI B. V. NAIK : Do not attribute motives.

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI : You speak so many * *

SHRI B. V. NAIK : I know what * * you are indulging in.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Order, please. Are you imputing motives to anyone in this House, Mr. Shastri ?

SHRI B. V. NAIK I request that the word * * must be expunged. It is Parliamentary ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : That will be looked into.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : मेरा इम्प्रेशन है कि इस तरह की बातें हमारे देश में हो रही हैं और ये इस सदन में मौके बे मौके उठती रहती हैं और इनका असर हमारी दोस्ती पर बुरा पड़ता है । इसी की ओर मैं इशारा कर रहा था । इसी पृष्ठभूमि में मैं सवाल पूछता हूं ।

क्या यह सच है कि एच ई सी की मशीनों के बारे में पता लगाने के लिए, अध्ययन करने के लिए, सोवियत यूनियन के विशेषज्ञों का कोई दल भारत आया था और आया था तो क्या उसने कोई रिपोर्ट सरकार को दी ? अगर दी तो उसमें जो सुझाव थे वे क्या थे उनको अमल में लाने के लिए सरकार ने कौन सी कार्रवाई की ?

क्या यह भी सच है कि सोवियत यूनियन से आई कुछ मशीनें आज भी पूरे तरीके से इस्तेमाल में नहीं लाई जा रही हैं, यदि हां तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

क्या यह भी सच है कि वहां के कुछ अधिकारी कारखाने के काम को भीतर घात, सैबोटाज करके इस बात के प्रचार के लिए मौका वेस्टिड इन्टरेस्टस को दे रहे हैं कि सोवियत यूनियन इसके लिए दोषी है, उसकी मशीनों में खराबी है ? क्या सैबोटाज की बात भी समय-समय पर आपको सुनने को मिली हैं मजदूर संगठनों की तरफ से या दूसरे लोगों की तरफ से ? यदि हां तो इसे खत्म करने के लिए आपने कौन सी कार्रवाई की है ताकि एच ई सी फुल स्विंग के साथ काम कर सके और उसके काम में रुकावट पैदा करने वाले लोगों का परदा फाश किया जा सके और बुनियादी मशीनें बनाने में हम आगे बढ़ सकें ?

SHRI B. V. NAIK : From the question which I am going to put, I hope that the hon. Member who has got a very illustrious name—Ram, Avatar, Shastri—a fantastic name he has got . . .

AN HON. MEMBER : No dissection of name.

SHRI B. V. NAIK : I want him to live up to the name and not to indulge in dirty politics and impute motives.

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI : You are doing it.

SHRI B. V. NAIK : It would be easy for us to say that you are a KGB agent . . . (*Interruptions*) Is there no parliamentary freedom here ? You cannot call a man an agent and impute motives . . . (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Order, please. I put the question to the hon. Member and he made it clear that he did not intend to impute any motive to any hon. Member of the House. So far as one's reading of the question goes, you cannot blame an ordinary Member if he interprets it in his own way. If we were to take exception to these things, it will be difficult to conduct any debate in this House. May I therefore

* * Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

suggest to the hon. Member not to refer to what Mr. Shastri said but put his question ?

SHRI B. V. NAIK : Sir, I think, in a free India, free expression of views, without any fear or being called even as a lobby, should be permitted. There is no point in this. Why should we be scared of our shadows ?

Sir, the question was very very specific, whether a particular foreign collaborator has committed any breach of the terms and conditions of the agreement. This was a categorical question, which A or B or C, by chance it is Mr. Sokhi, has put. It should have been answered in a very very clear-cut term 'No', there has been no breach'. That would have been an end of the question and of the answer that was given. By clubbing together items (a) and (b) and saying that (c) does not arise, the Ministry has tried to be clever, when all that we expect in this country is sincerity and honesty.

Recently, I had an opportunity of asking about the functioning of our public sector undertakings. I have gone on record, in a paper like *Patriot* saying that the public sector in this country is capable of tremendous performance. From that point of view, I would like to know what are the bottlenecks ? This sector has great potentialities. According to information furnished today, in reply to another question, it is functioning much below its capacity. Is this one of the factors ? If no, we would like to know, what are the other factors so that we take steps to reach our 100 per cent capacity and see to it that the infra structure that we have built up in this country begins to produce results, so that we do not have to look towards the USSR of Shri Shastri or the USA of somebody else or some other third country. We should look into this country in depth in order to come to certain conclusions.

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRY (SHRI T. A. PAI) : Sir, I am grateful to my hon. friend Shri Sokhi, for raising a discussion on the performance of the Heavy Engineering Corporation. This has given me an opportunity at least to inform the House that the functioning of the Heavy Engineering Corporation is quite contrary to what he has now informed the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think you are conscious of the fact that you have only ten minutes.

SHRI T. A. PAI : Yes, Sir.

I would like to bring to the notice of Mr. Sokhi and Mr. Naik that the question that was put was :

"Will the Minister of Heavy Industry be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Russian Company has not supplied the entire machinery required for the rated capacity and full production of the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi, which has been recently detected by the Management from the papers of the scheme available with them ;

(b) Whether Government propose to ask the U.S.S.R. Govenment for compensation of the losses incurred so far by the Heavy Engineering Corporation and recover the same from their dues ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?"

Mr. Naik, you will understand that the question asked was, whether they have fulfilled all the agreements that they were required to fulfil. Sir, my Ministry has been accused of twisting the answer. In answer to the question whether they have supplied the entire machinery, we said 'The Soviet collaborators have supplied the entire equipment for HMBP in conformity with the Detailed Project Report'. Why we said HMBP was because, of the three projects in HEC, HMBP is the only Soviet-assisted project and the two are covered by Czech assistance. Therefore, when I am asked a question on the Russian collaboration, does the hon. Member expect me to talk about Czech collaboration ? I have given more specific answers

without being very clever. When the question has been put to us, on the working of the Heavy Engineering Corporation, I think, our answer has been very specific. The second question was, whether we are going to claim any compensation for the losses from the U.S.S.R. Since they have supplied all the equipment they were required to supply to us, where is the question of our asking for any compensation from them for the losses? The third question was, if not, why not? Obviously, since they are not responsible for the losses that we have made, how can we ask for the compensation? The answers are very very simple

I would like to say that the project report was designed for ensuring a rated capacity of 80,000 tonnes. The product mix consisted of several things. But, later on, the production programme specified in the DPR for the plant has undergone revision because of the inclusion of continuous casting machines and sintering/pelletisation plants and also due to the modern trend towards higher size equipment such as blast furnances, coke ovens etc.

The DPR envisaged production of 21.6 cu. mts. coke even batteries. The coke oven batteries at present being produced by HMBP are 27.3 cu. mts. capacity. Similarly, the DPR envisaged the production of 1033 cu. mts. blast furnaces whereas HMBP are at present producing blast furnaces of the capacity of 2000 cu. mts. The DPR was also based on open hearth steel melting. The present trend in steel making is towards LD convertors. The DPR for HMBP did not envisage pelletisation/sintering and continuous casting, whereas modern steel plants are based on pelletisation/sintering plants and continuous casting of blooms, billets, slabs. It will thus be seen that the product-mix envisaged in the DPR has undergone a drastic change both in quality and quantity.

When the plant was erected, the product-mix was to satisfy the conditions as they were existing at that time for meeting the requirements of the steel industry. If the steel industry has advanced, naturally the machinery-makers also have to undergo changes. If the same capacity is used for making new type of machinery, it may be that we will not be able to make the same 80.000 tons envisaged in the original DPR. I cannot say that the Russians are responsible for this productmix. In the beginning we were thinking of 1 million tonne capacity steel plants. We changed our idea with the development and growth of the industry abroad. Naturally the product-mix has undergone a change. In these circumstances, it is not proper for us to find fault with what is the rated capacity now. It is possible that the same machinery may be used for doing many things. When the new management took over recently, we went into the causes as to why the capacity is not being used, whether HEC can perform better, etc. Now we are working two shifts and it can provide 18 lakh machine hours. If we are to reach 80.000 tonnes of machanical equipment according to the new product-mix, it would require 27 lakh machine hours. Therefore, we had to extend the balancing equipment by adding 39 machine tools out of which 14 tools can be produced by HMTP, another unit in HEC. 3 more machine tools are being transferred from the other units and we have to import 22 machine tools. Recently the officers of HEC were in Moscow negotiating with Russia for giving us the balancing equipment and that is expected.

I agree there have been a number of change in management of the HEC since its inception. It is one of the most developed complexes. I think its production capacity, located in one place, is unrivalled even according to many American visitors who have seen the plant. It can be made into the Skoda of this country if its capacity is fully utilised. It has been said that it has suffered a loss of Rs. 108 crores so far. Last year its loss was Rs. 16 crores. nobody should be happy about it. I had announced in the House that in two years we shall see that it breaks even. The hon. member would be happy that we have tried to cut down the losses by 50 per cent and I assure the House that HEC will

break even next year. If I have been critical of the functioning of HEC, it is not with the idea of condemning it, but with the idea that the next step will be to locate what exactly is wrong. I am convinced that we, as Indians, are capable of looking after big projects efficiently. HEC produced approximately Rs. 31 crors in 1971-72, Rs. 49 crores in 1972-73, Rs. 63 crores in 1973-74 and we have announced a target of Rs. 73.80 crores next year. With all the difficulties we may have, the shortage of raw material and occasional power break-downs-in the one union which we had there were four groups within; they had elections recently and we have been able to see happily that the union is a strong union; we are happy that we have been able to negotiate and come to a settlement with them-in spite of al lthese difficuties, we have done our best. Of course, we have to do a great deal, so far as this particular unit is concerned, to go ahead.

SHRI B. V. NAIK: What about the utilisation of capacity?

SHRI T. A. PAI: In heavy engineering units it all depends upon what we mean by utilisation. If it is 65 to 70 per cent utilisation in a very big unit, it is good because the availability of orders is far more important than anything else. If the steel industry does not expand as fast as we expect, the capacity for the blast furnace becomes idle. Neverthless, our idea is to explore the possibility of even export. In the case of BHEL sometimes the utilisation of capacity has been increased to 175 per cent in the boiler plant by trying to see that the ancillary production unit is also encouraged. Here I think the capacity utilisation will be 45 to 55 per cent by next year.

Lastly, I would like to inform my hon. friend that General Kini is very much there and he continues to be the managing Director. The news which he read in the newspapers was about Shri Warrior joining as a member of the Board of Directors. Therefore, he need not have any apprehension that we are displacing any of our executives who have been proved to be first class.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI: Can the NIDC design the future plants?

SHRI T. A. PAI: We have a lot of capacity in this country. We are continuously availing of the available advice that we have from different sectors. But it has got to be of proven worth. While sometimes theoretical guidance is readily available, it will be mostly by people who have not implemented anything themselves, and therefore it has got limited value.

18.30 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till 11 *A.M. on Monday, April* 8, 1974/*Chaitra* 18, 1896 (*Saka*).

MGIPRRND—Sec. II (ay)—8 LSS/74—25-5-74—978.